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GENERAL VIOLA VIEWS RESULTS OF U.S. VISIT

PY181739 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0210 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Washington, 17 Mar (TELAM)--During a press conference that he gave a few hours before leaving this city, Gen Roberto Viola said today that the results of his visit to Washington have exceeded his most exaggerated hopes.

My meeting with President Ronald Reagan was more cordial than I had hoped, Viola said. And he added that the theme had been the need of making personal contact and of a more humanized knowledge for seeking solutions to the difficulties that could arise.

Viola was completely frank during the press conference, which was without limitations and concluded when the journalists found that they had no more questions to ask.

Viola said that questions regarding human rights and nuclear policy had been the matters that had basically obstructed the relations between the two countries during the past few years.

He specifically indicated that during his meetings with the foreign relations committees of Congress there had been no questions about these matters that could not be answered.

When asked about the main motive for his visit, Viola answered that: I thought it was necessary, before becoming the head of government, to make an unofficial private visit, a visit that would be free of the obstacles that protocol institutes [passage indistinct] special motive to come and establish direct contact with the highest authorities, he said.

Regarding the ban on the sale of arms to Argentina, he said: We expressed our disagreement with the ban itself, because we consider we do not merit it, and he added that he had assurances received from the U.S. Government that every effort will be made to lift the embargo.

He said that there had not been many questions about his government's economic policy or about the trade situation between the two countries.

Referring to statements made by Senator Clayton Pell regarding an alleged promise to publish a list of missing persons, he clarified that: When the senator asked the question I said that the publication of the names of people whose deaths can be definitely proved could be studied in the future, but there is no certainty that all of those included on that list of more than 5,000 persons that has been drawn up by some sectors are really dead.

When asked about the new U.S. policy regarding El Salvador, he said that we share it.

Expanding on the subject of his government's foreign policy, Viola said: We will place special emphasis on regional affairs.

The future president said that neither the dispute with Chile over the Beagle Channel nor the dispute with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands were analyzed during the meetings he had held.

When asked whether his approach to the government would have been equally as easy if former President Jimmy Carter had been reelected, Viola said that it would have been much more difficult. I believe that we are now beginning a new era in our relations with the United States, Viola said.

He expressed his satisfaction with the result of his visit: In the first place, because I fully achieved the objective of establishing an irreplaceable human contact and of establishing the basis for opening a channel for consultations that will prevent frictions between our two countries.

In the second place, I have encountered an understanding that exceeds my most exaggerated hopes, Viola said.

The future president asserted that the current economic policy will be maintained in concept and philosophy, but if it is necessary modifications will be implemented, of the same type that would have been implemented if the current economic team were to continue in government.

Asked about specific points of his economic plan, he indicated that, for example, the high interest rates must be corrected and they must not go over 10 percent.

Answering a question regarding his opinion on the activities of the unions in politics, he said that the unions must not become a factor par excellence nor must they be a factor of minimal importance with is merely able to make demands, they must participate in the national way of life the same as the other sectors and in the same proportion.

Regarding the political parties, he said that the statute that will govern their activities will be ready during the frist half of 1982, or even before, after which the parties must reorganize in accordance with the laws that will be implemented and then begin to function within this framework.

Viola was asked for a definition regarding his future cabinet, but he refused to give individual qualifications of its members. But he said that all of its members are persons who know their sectors thoroughly, they are representative in their activities, they have the will to win, and none of them has a record as a loser.

Finally, asked about the grain embargo against the USSR, he said that: We expressed our opinion that in the first place, before adopting a measure of that type, consultation with the interested countries is necessary; and in the second place, what must be taken into account is what the embargo implies for U.S. exports and what it implies for a country such as Argentina whose export sales of grains amount to 35 to 40 percent of its exports.

After the press conference tonight Viola will give a reception at the Argentine Embassy, and tomorrow his last activity here will be a breakfast with Vice President George Bush. He will then leave for New York.

GOVERNMENT OFFERS ACTIVE AID TO EL SALVADOR

PY182133 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2035 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Mar (NA)--The secretary general of the army, Gen Alfredo Saint Jean, today stated that the Argentine Government is ready to carry out an "active participation" in the Salvadoran conflict if the authorities of the latter country specifically request it. He also reported that "we have offered our advice in this struggle (of the Salvadoran regime against the guerrillas), which we experienced once ourselves."

Saint Jean said: "The Argentine Armed Forces rapidly learned the techniques of this type of unconventional war, and we have considerable experience. In view of this, our advice could be very useful to friendly countries which are experiencing the same type of aggression."

During his usual weekly meeting with the military correspondents and journalists accredited to army headquarters, Saint Jean spoke about the antisubversive struggle and pointed out that "we are prepared to offer our cooperation in this regard to all friendly countries who share our way of life."

At this point, he said that "Argentina's active participation in the Salvadoran conflict could only take place at the express request of that country."

He stressed that the Argentine Army "shares the current position or policy of the United States of America toward the problem in El Salvador, which is experiencing Marxist aggression, as happened here."

The Ronald Reagan administration is supplying military "advice" to the Salvadoran regime and is seeking to prevent the flow of arms which, according to Washington, is coming into El Salvador from Nicaragua and Cuba.

Saint Jean extolled the "efforts" which the Salvadoran regime is making to defeat this "Marxist aggression" and expressed his confidence that the authorities of that Central American country will attain victory "as we did."

## NO U.S. OBJECTION TO USSR NUCLEAR DEAL FORESEEN

PY140235 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1900 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Mar (TELAM)--Vice Adm Carlos Castro Madero, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], today said that he does not believe that U.S. President Reagan will raise any objections about the heavy water that Argentina purchased from the USSR during the meeting he will hold next week with Argentine president-designate Gen Roberto Viola.

Admiral Castro Madero made this statement during a brief press conference he held at CNEA after the signing of two agreements by the chairmen of the Argentine and Uruguayan nuclear energy organizations. He added that the purchase of heavy water from the USSR should not cause any concern to the United States, since it will be used in the Atucha I nuclear plant to replace losses occurring naturally with the passage of time.

Anssering another question, he said that he does not believe that there will be any changes in the CNEA budget once the new officials assume their duties, since this was agreed ahead of time and since the CNEA is doing its share to decrease government spending. He added that the heavy water plant that is under construction and the plant at Embalse will not experience any delays.

Regarding the cooperation agreements signed today with Uruguay, Castro Madero said that this example must be followed in other parts of the American Continent. Moreover, the chairman of the Uruguayan National Atomic Energy Commission, Pable Banales, said that through the cooperation offered by Argentina, Uruguay will be able to develop its own nuclear technology, since Argentina is a highly developed country in the nuclear field. He noted that Argentina is more advanced than Uruguay in both quality and quantity because of the time that it has been involved in this activity, and that he is quite happy that through this cooperation program Uruguay will soon have its own nuclear center, which is something Uruguay urgently needs.

## BRIEFS

NEW SALVADORAN AMBASSADOR--President Jorge Rafael Videla this morning received the credentials of the new Salvadoran ambassador to Argentina, Col Carlos Humberto Figueroa. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Mar 81 PY]

MANY RUMORS OF COUP D'ETAT SWEEP COUNTRY

PY190254 Paris AFP in Spanish 0231 GMT 19 Mar 81

[By Andres Soliz Rada]

[Text] Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 18 Mar (AFP)--Political analysts indicated here today that never since the military coup on 17 July last year has the country been swept by a wave of rumors as strong as that which hit the country last Tuesday, when the military regime completed its eighth month in power.

Radio Centenario, one of Santa Cruz' most important radio stations, indicated at noon today that the strongest rumor was the one which had to do with former president Alberto Natusch Busch, who has repeatedly refused to accept a position abroad.

Colonel Natusch led the military uprising on 1 November 1979 which overthrew Dr Walter Guevara Arce's constitutional administration.

Fifteen days later Natusch, who had offered to respect union freedoms and the parliamentary system and to install a military government with popular support, was forced to hand over power to Lidia Gueiler Tejada. The wave of rumors reported by the Santa Cruz station included the alleged occupation of Santa Cruz (1,000 km east of La Paz) by the ranger regiment which has acted to guarantee the continuity of Gen Luis Garcia Meza's administration.

According to these rumors, some of the brigadier generals of the army military college decided to reject the authority of the director of this military institute, the controversial former interior minister, Col Luis Arce Gomez.

The arrest of certain military officers, among whom was allegedly the former labor minister, Gen Augusto Calderon, was one of the stars in the constellation of rumors, which rather than being confirmed were denied one by one, according to the Santa Cruz radio station.

The facts known so far can be reduced to two:

Incidents of a disciplinary nature took place yesterday morning when military exercises were carried out, creating alarm among the population. The type of incidents, the persons involved and their seriousness continue to be a mystery.

At the same time, the National Telecommunications Company facilities broke down; therefore, many correspondents were unable to get in touch with the interior of the country and abroad, thus creating more alarm and anxiety.

There was great concern when the president himself denied last Wednesday reports of changes in the leadership of the nation by saying that his intention to continue as chief of state had not changed.

Gen Waldo Bernal, commander of the air force and aeronautics minister, referring to rumors, said that Garcia Meza's authority could not be questioned.

At the same time, former President Hugo Banzer Suarez indicated in a statement to the daily EL MUNDO of Santa Cruz on Sunday that in his opinion the government should study a political way out of the situation, and he added that he was ready to run as candidate for president of the nation in any future straightforward elections.

The domestic atmosphere has been affected by the so-far fruitless waiting for the resumption of Bolivian-U.S. diplomatic and economic relations. The economic situation is still very difficult, according to Finance Minister Jorge Tamayo Ramos, who has managed to refinance part of the foreign debt. He admitted that for this refinancing the country will have to pay foreign bankers free [as received] interest rates, which are now 21 percent per year.

Therefore, the overall picture of the national situation seems to indicate that the rumors have become a political factor which should be taken into account and are playing an inordinate role in the life of the country.

Report of Insubordination

PY190314 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0220 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] La Paz, 18 Mar (LATIN)--Government sources have reported that the government of President Luis Garcia Meza and the military command of this capital today have overcome an outburst of indiscipline in a La Paz military unit.

It was an isolated incident of insubordination in an effort not to recognize the authority of a military unit, a source who asked not be identified said to this agency.

The event, which took place yesterday, drew the attention of the military command, which held several meetings in the Miraflores headquarters.

It was an event which does not at all affect the stability of Gen Luis Garcia Meza's government and the tranquillity of the country, said an informant who did not want to give any more details.

A mobilization of troops took place yesterday morning in southern La Paz, and the 1st Army Division command of this capital said it was a routine exercise. The army command also indicated that incidents of disciplinary nature had taken place, creating unjustified alarm among the population.

A high-ranking military source, asked by this agency, admitted today that these events--given without details in the communique--created concern among the military command, which fortunately solved the problem through current military regulations.

The informant said that this event does not involve political aspects, but only the military institution, because of its origin and how it was solved.

Government spokesmen--except for the military communique--are completely silent in view of the rumors regarding this incident.

The event drew the attention of government and military sectors but did not affect the atmosphere of tranquillity and normality of public and private activities in this capital and across the nation.

Minister Cites Military Unity

PY190032 Montero Radio Norte in Spanish 0013 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Intercepted in progress]

[Text] ...to whom he will report on his activities at the various army units which he has been visiting since last Sunday.

When he was asked about the events which have taken place in La Paz in connection with tactical maneuvers and the disciplinary incident, [Defense Minister] General Reyes Villa indicated that he will find out about this incident once he arrives in La Paz. The minister was interviewed yesterday morning at the [name indistinct] Hotel, where he was staying with Gen Eden Castillo. The two were wearing fatigues and had just returned from (?Sanandita).

General Reyes Villa indicated that there is total unity in the armed forces and that this position was conveyed to him by the commanders of the various military units which he visited.

BAHIA STATE MILITARY POLICE ENDING WALKOUT

PY170009 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 16 Mar 81 p 1

[Excerpt] After the death of Lt Valmir Alcantara the day before yesterday, the officers of the Bahia State Military Police decided to extend the strike; however, yesterday they changed their minds. The strike was to last 3 days, which means it ended at 0000 today. The police then returned to their barracks, where they are carrying out a slowdown. Governor Antonio Carlos Magalhaes has stated that the request for a salary hike for public servants will be submitted to the legislative assembly in April so that it can come into effect on 1 July.

General Takes Control

PY171205 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Operational control of the Bahia State Military Police has been assumed by Gen Gustavo Moraes Rego, commander of the 6th Military Region. The order was released by the Army Ministry in a general order signed by Gen Walter Pires following the recent strike and the incident which ended in the death of Lt Valmir Alcantara.

One of the first measures implemented by Moraes Rego has been to take over the military officers' club. This has prevented the military police officers from holding a meeting at which they were to decide whether or not to renew the strike.

Five officers have been arrested for participating in the strike, and their punishment has been noted in the headquarters bulletin of the military police.

SMUGGLED WEAPONS SEIZED AT CONGONHAS AIRPORT

PY180225 Porto Alegre Radio Farroupilha in Portuguese 0100 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Sao Paulo--Gen Milton Tavares de Souza, commander of the 2d Army, today displayed to the press four rifles--made in the United States and Italy--and two submachineguns which had been seized at Congonhas Airport when they were being smuggled into the country.

General Tavares said that since these types of weapons have been used in Nicaragua and El Salvador, their smuggling could be indicative of something extremely serious. He did not give details of the quantities seized or who is responsible for smuggling the weapons into the country. He merely said that the appropriate investigations are being conducted by security organizations.

He noted, however, that international communism could be involved in the operation. He added that no one would buy heavy weapons if his objective was not that of seizing power by force.

GOVERNMENT, OPPOSITION PARTIES OPEN DIALOGUE

PY170231 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] Justice Minister Abi-Ackel and PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] President and Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes have defined as a "declaration of intentions" the meeting which they held yesterday morning opening the dialogue between the government and opposition parties. The meeting held at Abi-Ackel's office last 45 minutes and dealt exclusively with the amendment of the foreigners law, according to both the minister and the parliamentarian.

Deputy Marcelo Cerqueira, PMDB-Rio de Janeiro State and spokesman for the opposition parties on the subject of the status of foreigners, accompanied Ulysses Guimaraes. At the end of the meeting the opposition members merely indicated that the minister conveyed to them "an overall picture of the changes which the government plans to make in the foreigners law," but they did not reveal any details of the talks.

LABOR PARTY HOLDS ELECTIONS IN 11 STATES

PY170022 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 16 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] The Brazilian Labor Party (PTB) has carried out the second phase of its nationwide organization by holding conventions to elect regional executive boards in 11 states: Acre, Alagoas, Amazonas, Ceara, Maranhao, Para, Parana, Pernambuco, Rio Grande do Norte, Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. Former Deputy Ivete Vargas has been elected president of the party in Sao Paulo. At the end of the convention she said: "I have completed a bureaucratic gymkhana."

The PTB is the third among the new parties engaged in their final organization. The first is the PDS [Social Democratic Party], which has already requested registration at the Supreme Electoral Court (TSE). The second is the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party], which has not asked to be registered at the TSE yet, but has already gone through all the stages required by law. The PTB has set the date of its national convention for 19 April, the date of Getulio Vargas [former Brazilian President and leader of PTB] birthday.

DEPUTY SAYS DROUGHT VICTIMS TO BE RESETTLED

PY121754 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Ceara continues being the state which has suffered most from the drought, which is now affecting 31 cities. Hungry farmers have invaded the city of Morada Nova, 170 kms from Fortaleza. The local police have been unable to control the drought victims who raided the city's central market. In Acopiara a group of approximately 1,200 persons are waiting to be supplied with food and jobs. The stores of the city, which have been raided twice already, remain closed for fear of pillage.

Deputy Governor Manuel Castro reported that the drought victims arrived in trucks, raided the commercial area of the city and took whatever they could.

In Fortaleza, Social Democratic Party Deputy (Fernando Morte) has stated that reliable sources have told him that the Interior Ministry is drawing up a resettlement plan. According to him, the government is preparing a plan to resettle 10 million drought victims to Amazonia.

FRANCE OFFERS ENRICHED URANIUM FOR NUCLEAR PLANTS

PY141747 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Mar 81 p 1

[Text] During a recent contact with ELECTROBRAS [Brazilian Electric Power Companies, Inc.], France offered enriched uranium to Brazil. So far, however, no negotiations have been initiated. If approved, the project will absorb the surplus of the fuel produced by the Eurodif consortium, in which France is the largest stockholder, to be used by the Angra Dos Reis nuclear plants. Eurodif sources feel that the offer is quite advantageous for Brazil, because it would offer an alternative to one of the arrangements with Germany.

Eurodif is not concerned over the fact that Brazil has not yet adhered to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, being satisfied with the guarantees given by the country to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL ON BEAGLE TALKS STATUS

PY181318 Paris AFP in Spanish 0316 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 18 Mar (AFP)--It has been reported here that the foreign affairs under secretary, Col Ernesto Videla, said today that there is no more room for negotiations within the papal mediation process on the Beagle Channel dispute with Argentina.

In a telephone conversation with the newspaper EL MERCURIO of this capital, the chief of the Chilean delegation attending the mediation talks, who is currently in Rome, indicated that the mediation is a process that is already underway.

He added that Pope John Paul II made public his desire for a quick answer within the suggested deadline of between 6 and 8 January. "One of the parties complied with this deadline and the other party has needed more time."

The pope on 12 December handed his peace proposal to the Argentine and Chilean foreign ministers in a solemn ceremony held in Rome.

Chile answered the pope's proposal in the affirmative on 8 January 1981, while Argentina will only submit its answer during the course of this week, according to press reports from Buenos Aires.

The pope has been expecting Argentina's answer for approximately 3 months. It would have been ideal if the answer could have been made at the same time, but as this did not occur; we will have to continue waiting, Videla indicated.

The high-ranking Chilean official met on Tuesday with the pope's representative in the mediation process, Cardinal Antonio Samore, with whom he talked for 90 minutes.

It was cordial meeting in which the current state of the mediation process and the course that it will follow during the next few days was discussed, he added.

The permanent representative at the mediation process, Enrique Bernstein, and the alternate ambassador, Santiago Benadava, were also present during the meeting.

During the visit, the Chilean delegate greeted Samore, because there had been no official contact for 3 months. We had a very interesting talk with him, Videla indicated.

Asked about the next stages within the development of the process, Videla clarified that the next step is the receipt of the other answer. This is the stage in which we are.

Then there will be a period of implementation regarding the agreements and various points contained in the pope's proposal. "On this point we have not yet defined anything with Samore," he said.

The Chilean under secretary indicated that he is fully confident that there will be a good ending to the 100-year dispute between Argentina and Chile over the southern area.

It has not been just anybody who has offered his peace proposal: It is Pope John Paul II, he added.

He concluded by saying that the current problem is Argentina's. "It is important," he said, "to recall that it is the pope who is waiting."

GOVERNMENT BANISHES FOUR MEMBERS OF OPPOSITION

PY171744 Paris AFP in Spanish 1435 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 17 Mar (AFP)--The relatives of four opponents of the Chilean Government disclosed here today that the latter have been sentenced to 3-months' banishment to Chiloe Island, 1,200 km south of Santiago.

Three of the persons sentenced to banishment had taken part in a meeting on 8 March to celebrate International Woman's Day which was interrupted by the police. The fourth individual was arrested at his home 2 days earlier.

It was recalled that during the past 15 months approximately 120 perons have been the victims of similar sanctions, which are the result of government provisions allowing this type of punishment without resorting to the ordinary courts of justice.

MAYORS RESIGN TO GIVE PRESIDENT FREEDOM OF ACTION

PY171910 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Relay from Government House]

[Text] A few minutes ago the Interior Ministry disclosed that all the mayors of the country have resigned their posts in order to give his excellency the president of the republic freedom of action. The president will decide what to do regarding these resignations during the coming days.

BRIEFS

NEW GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS--This afternoon Col (Hernando Arancibia) will be sworn in as interim vice foreign minister to replace Brig Gen Enrique Valdes Puga, who has been appointed head of the military institute. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Mar 81 PY]

FRENCH PARLIAMENTARIANS--Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames has met with a delegation of French parliamentarians headed by Deputy Georges Trenechant and including members of the Latin Economic Cooperation Organization (OLCE). During the meeting they discussed the promotion of increased trade, higher French quotas for purchasing cooper and the possibilities of Chile purchasing French equipment and machinery. [Santiago Chile Deiplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0143 GMT 10 Mar 81 PY]

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION--There was a 4-percent increase in industrial production in 1980, so that the sales in this sector increased 4.7 percent in comparison with 1979, according to the Study Department of the Industrial Development Association. In 1979 industrial production experienced an 8.2-percent rise in production and an 8.9-percent increase in sales, indices similar to the national economic growth in 1979, which was 8.2 percent. [Santiago EL MERCURIO EDICION INTERNACIONAL in Spanish 12-18 Feb pp 1-2 PY]

FOREIGN DEBT SERVICING--Santiago, Chile, 14 Mar (AFP)--It was officially announced here today that additional income that Chile gets from copper exports will be used to service the foreign debt. This is due to the recent high price of copper. A government decree law stipulates that in calculating the national budget, the average price of copper for the previous 6 months will be taken as a point of reference, and if in the subsequent year the price is higher than was calculated, the additional funds will be used to service the foreign debt. In 1980 the Chilean foreign debt reached $11,239,000,000, of which $5,068,000,000 are state obligations, and it is this portion which will be helped by an eventual rise in copper prices. The current national budget was calculated on an average copper price of $.7836 per pound, but the actual average price in 1980 was $1.0980 per pound. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1516 GMT 14 Mar 81 PY]

FIGUEIREDO GRANTS PRESS CONFERENCE IN BOGOTA

PY171636 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Mar 81 p 5

[Press conference given by Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo in Bogota on 13 March]

[Text] [Question] Mr President, how would you describe the results of your visit to Colombia? What did you achieve on this trip?

[Answer] I would say that my visit to Colombia has been completely successful. It fulfilled the expectations I had when I left Brazil. The talks have been very cordial at all levels. Both parties have had a chance to speak frankly and objective conclusions were reached concerning every issue discussed. The joint communique released to the press yesterday conveys a very good idea of the scope of negotiations conducted with Colombia. I must add that the success of these negotiations, aside from the efficiency of President Turbay Ayala's government team and of the members of my own team, was due especially to the manner in which his excellency the president conducted the talks and the manner in which we talked.

[Question] Brazil is having its presence felt in Latin America, especially through the opening of new markets, new contacts and new forms of understanding. It is, in fact, assuming a leadership even though this is not acknowledged for both diplomatic and political reasons. What is your opinion of the position Brazil is assuming within a continent that is still torn by a number of domestic problems, and even international problems among the nations of this continent?

[Answer] Brazil does not want, it does not wish, it rejects any idea that it may become South America's leading nation. You could say that the Brazilian Government has sought rapprochement with the other Latin American countries in order to reach a common understanding, not only beyond bilateral interests, but also beyond multilateral interests--that is an understanding of the interests of Latin America as a whole toward the international situation. I repeat that Brazil rejects any type of hegemony, any kind of leadership, any sort of blocs. It does want each South American country to be given equal footing and equal rights to state its claims at the international forums with the support of the other South American countries.

[Question] Mr President, regarding the Ecuadorean-Peruvian conflict, what conclusions did the mediating countries draw?

[Answer] As far as I know, given the intervention of the four guarantor countries of the 1942 treaty--the United States, Argentina, Chile and Brazil--a cease-fire was fortunately achieved. Later, both parties agreed to the presence of military attaches to verify the position of troops in the area. Now, according to reports I have received from my foreign minister, negotiations have continued and are advancing on the right track. It is possible to reach a peaceful solution in the short term for the happiness of all of us.

[Question] In the joint declaration signed yesterday, Brazil and Colombia explicitly condemn any kind of interference in the domestic affairs of other countries, including El Salvador. Is Brazil concerned over the possible internationalization of the Salvadoran crisis?

[Answer] Precisely because of the fear of a possible internationalization of the Salvadoran crisis, Brazil repeats its position of nonintervention in domestic affairs, a position that has never changed. Brazil and Colombia, and all the other countries I have talked to, feel it would be better to intervene in the sense of making both parties enter into dialogue, and to provide overall aid to improve the social conditions of the people of that country. Brazil does not agree to any armed intervention in El Salvador because it offends its foreign policy principles.

[Question] Mr President, could your policy of greater integration with Latin American countries imply that Brazilian relations with the United States have been placed on a secondary level, or could the policy of greater integration with Latin American countries lead the United States to set itself apart from Brazil, both in its political and economic relations as well?

[Answer] I do not think so. On the contrary. Our initiative for greater rapprochement with Latin American governments is just to make the United States feel that it must have an overall policy regarding South America, but taking into consideration the individual characteristics and differences among each of the countries. The idea of placing the relationship with the United States on a secondary level is far from the truth. What we want precisely is to have U.S. policy toward us South Americans placed on a primary level. We continue being what we were in the past, friends and allies of the United States. This does not mean we agree with all its positions regarding international policy.

[Question] Mr President, while visiting Congress yesterday, President Herrera Campins stated that he could not sign any agreement with Colombia because it has already signed an agreement with Brazil. Does this trip have anything to do with it?

[Answer] Absolutely no relation at all. The relations we maintain with Colombia, and Colombia's relations with Venezuela, are relations which concern those two countries. Brazil could intervene, at the request of one or the other, to help find solutions. But there has been no interference and no reference to the subject at all.

[Question] Mr President, our country is a large nation and, therefore, cannot be isolated. It has to permanently open its doors to the world. And within this line of thinking, I have termed your trips abroad more of an investment than an expenditure, so to speak. There are rumors that in 1982 you will not make trips abroad but will concentrate on the country's domestic activities, especially politics, trying to get your candidates for state governors elected. To what extent are these rumors true?

[Answer] They are not true at all. It is natural that during an election year I might be interested in the electoral campaign of the party which is supporting the government at the moment, and which is my party. But this does not mean that I am going to place on a second level the contacts I have to maintain with the governments of friendly countries, in the sense of establishing a common course in the international forum. I will not give up these contacts, and there is no reason to reduce them. If they are reduced, it will be for reasons other than those you presented.

[Question] Mr President, at this press conference you have said that perhaps the solution in El Salvador would be improving the social situation. In Brazil we saw the invasion of northeastern cities by victims of drought, and we see similar problems in other Latin American countries. Do you believe that to prevent future problems in Latin America the social situation must be improved, and how do you think it must be done within a market economy?

[Answer] There is no doubt that the only solution to the social turmoil we are facing in different parts of the world, especially in northeastern Brazil, is improving social conditions. Now, these social conditions, precarious as they are at the moment, find the country facing economic difficulties, especially regarding its trade balance and the balance of payments. This is the reason why I ordered the use of these resources to fight that drought problem which has been adversely affecting the northeastern part of Brazil for 3 years. I realize these resources are poor, but if we take into account the resources which have been channeled to the northeast during previous droughts, we are going to find out that they are not as precarious or insignificant as they seem. Last year, approximately 32-billion cruzeiros were distributed for this purpose, in addition to the budget. And this year, 42-billion cruzeiros have already been released. Just these two figures surpass by far what was expended during the past 8 years in the northeast.

[Question] Mr President, what are the trade prospects stemming from your visit to Colombia? How will your visit intensify trade?

[Answer] Bilateral trade is favorable to Brazil. According to the data at hand, Brazilian exports to Colombia are far larger than the Colombian exports to Brazil. This is why we are concerned about bringing our trade balance to a point of equilibrium. And the first provision we took was to agree on the import by Brazil of Colombian coal. Furthermore, the talks held by our businessmen--supported by our two governments--may result in other deals, other agreements to improve the trade balance and to bring it closer to a point of equilibrium.

[Question] Mr President, during your visit President Turbay Ayala spoke several times about Brazil's leadership on the continent. You have already said that Brazil does not seek any leadership. But should not that foreign image of Brazil as a natural leader, force us to increasingly improve our democratic regime and to make it a model for the continent by carrying on the democratization process which is now underway?

[Answer] Our political process, the way we are to achieve democracy, concerns us Brazilians. We do not take into account the possible repercussions this process might have on neighboring countries, because that is a matter concerning the domestic policy of each country. We have no doubts that because of Brazil's size--both geography and history can provide evidence of this--this process will influence other countries, just as the Salvadoran internal political situation--despite being a small country--is having repercussions all over America. There is absolutely no connection between Brazil's possible leadership--which we totally reject, which we do not accept and do not want--and democratization processes in other countries. The Brazilian democratization process and our efforts to achieve a democracy in keeping with our traditions concerns only us Brazilians. We hope to achieve it peacefully and that our achieving this goal may encourage other countries.

[Question] Mr President, when will President Turbay visit Brazil, and will his visit be designed to carry on the talks held in Colombia?

[Answer] I told President Turbay yesterday that he could freely set the date for his visit to Brazil--for my part, the sooner, the better. President Turbay will be welcomed as a friend, as the president of a friendly country--which Colombia is--whenever he visits Brazil. Our respective foreign ministries have not yet discussed the possible date for his visit to Brazil. Regarding the second part of your question, during his visit he will of course further the talks we initiated here to strengthen both trade and our friendly relations.

[Question] Mr President, the Colombian Government has officially informed the Brazilian Government that it has found Brazilian-made arms which were intended for delivery to the M-19. I would like to know whether the Brazilian Government can, and whether it plans to, do something to prevent this guerrilla movement from continuing to receive Brazilian arms?

[Answer] The only information I have received is that it is possible that among the arms seized there could be a few Brazilian-made handgrenades. The arms which Brazil exports are under total control. As soon as I received the information from the Colombian Government, I ordered that an investigation be conducted in Brazil to see what the source of these arms was. El Salvador has received--at least according to the reports of the U.S. Government--American arms, and I cannot believe that they have been sent with the consent of the American Government, since the report came from them. In the same way, we cannot believe that arms shipped to friendly countries have been diverted to Colombia with the consent of those countries. These arms must have been diverted illegally, if they were diverted at all, and we will try to find out how and by whom.

[Question] Mr President, within the framework of your policy of rapprochement with Latin American countries, do you see the creation of a Latin American economic bloc in order to confront the international market?

[Answer] In principle, Brazil is against the creation of blocs. Any bloc generally conveys the idea of being against someone, and we do not want to go against anyone. Instead of a formal bloc, we would like to see a solidarity bloc. We want to see greater solidarity among American countries in the sense that they speak in the same tone and with the same strength at the international forums and not waste our time with bilateral discussions which lead nowhere, according to our experience.

[Question] Mr President, I would like to know whether, in addition to what the joint communique states, there are firm bases for possible Brazilian cooperation in exporting Colombian coal: Are there any prospects of concrete investments of funds which could indicate to us that Brazil is going to use Colombian coal?

[Answer] I would answer that yes, there are. We are broadening our studies to find the best way in which Colombia and Brazil can make these investments. The subject is of interest to both Colombia and Brazil. It all depends on the manner in which our talks are conducted and the conclusions that we reach through them.

[Question] Mr President, on the basis of this trip of yours to Bogota, could we foresee, in the short or even medium term, an increase of passenger and freight transport between Brazil and Colombia?

[Answer] You can and must expect this. We have a natural channel of communications, which is the Amazon River; we have air transport; and finally we have, although yet incipient, land transport. We are doing our best to use these three means to achieve a better connection between Colombian Amazonia and Brazilian Amazonia.

[Question] Mr President, you spoke yesterday about the creation of a Latin American bloc together with Colombia. Do you believe that Brazil and the other South American countries are still suffering from not being able to make themselves heard by the so-called developed countries?

[Answer] It is precisely because I believe that we are not being heard the way we should be that I am seeking this solidarity among South American countries. The idea is not to create a political bloc but to make us heard either all together or one by one, and that we all say the same things with the same strength.

[Question] Mr President, we have had a very tense week here in Bogota because of the guerrilla offensive in the south of the country and all this guerrilla action here. I would like to ask you whether you believe that this atmosphere interfered with or hampered your visit to Bogota in any way?

[Answer] As for myself, I felt nothing at all, and neither, I believe, did my aides. I believe that if there indeed were some guerrilla actions--as the press is now reporting--these activities did not interfere at all either with our activities or our negotiations.

[Question] Mr President, despite all the refusals conveyed either by yourself or through Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro regarding the leadership which Colombia insists that Brazil should assume in Latin America, we noticed that during President Turbay Ayala's speech yesterday and during the signing of the accords, both you and your entourage as a whole were deeply moved. You even went so far as to extend your speech last night. Would you confirm that you were indeed moved by President Turbay Ayala's insistence?

[Answer] It was not President Turbay Ayala's insistence in bestowing a leadership on Brazil that made me extend my speech by a few words. This was merely prompted by the cordial and kind manner in which he talked about me during the signing of the friendship agreement, the joint communique and the other accords and agreements we have signed. I can only view President Turbay Ayala's statements as a courteous attitude toward Brazil. However, I must repeat, for the third time gentlemen, that it is neither our desire nor interest that Brazil be looked upon as the South American leader in any sense whatsoever.

What we do want is to reduce the tensions which could exist among some of the countries, to allow us all to fulfill the ideals upheld by Simon Bolivar: total solidarity in Latin America.

[Question] Mr President, before coming to meet with President Ayala you saw General Walters in Brasilia in connection with the Salvadoran problem. What was your conclusion? Is there really Soviet intervention in El Salvador, and how can the U.S. intervention in that country be avoided?

[Answer] First of all, General Walters showed me some documents proving Soviet intervention, through Cuba, in the affairs of El Salvador. We agreed to study these documents to see whether they were truthful or not. We do not say that what he showed us is true or not true. The documents open possibilities. It is very possible that they are indeed truthful. This does not mean, however, that there is necessarily interference. Our attitude will be aimed at showing the United States that we are not in favor of military intervention. As to whether the United States will intervene or not, this is up to the U.S. Government.

[Question] Mr President, what is the position of Brazil and Colombia on the coffee issue after your trip?

[Answer] Look here, all I can tell you is that the talks on the coffee issue have been excellent. I can tell you that Brazil and Colombia have reaffirmed their position that the price of coffee must be kept at a level reasonable for the producer, that Brazil and Colombia have decided to move together toward the fulfillment of the international coffee agreement in the most favorable manner for the Brazilian economy. That is all. I am certain that Brazil and Colombia will retain the initiative among coffee-producing countries as far as the handling of the coffee policy is concerned.

[Question] Negotiations were held in Bogota concerning the imports of Colombian coffee [as published] which would normally demand heavy Brazilian investments. How do you plan to combine a policy of investment in Colombian coal with the inflation which we are experiencing in Brazil, inflation which last month was 8.5 percent, the highest in recent years?

[Answer] That is the great problem, to know how much we can invest here in view of our domestic situation and the shortage of funds. This is what will be discussed now. This is what we are going to discuss in Brazil to find out about the terms and the economic feasibility of this project and to see how much we can invest.

[Question] Mr President, while one witnesses that the nations are arming themselves more and more every day, here in Bogota the presidents of Brazil and Colombia have reaffirmed their will to struggle against this excessive armament. How do you relate this to the strengthening of world peace?

[Answer] I believe that the South American countries are the least armed countries in the world. We barely possess the minimum necessary to keep order and to control our borders to prevent smuggling and irregular trade. We will struggle at the international forums to have all the participants in the meeting accept disarmament.

I do not have a great deal of faith that this will happen, especially as far as the great powers are concerned. However, we South American countries agree that we do not need arms because our problems, and there are some, can and must be resolved by peaceful means.

[Question] Mr President, you have spoken of the significance of a strong legislative branch for democracy. Could I conclude that that is what you want for Brazil?

[Answer] Had it not been, I would have said nothing. Why would I say here in Colombia that something would be good for Colombia and not for Brazil? You are mentioning this only because of this question of congressional prerogatives in Brazil my party voted against, or at least prevented the votes from being cast, and the draft amendment was rejected because the time allotted for issuing a congressional decision had expired. This does not mean that I am against the reinstatements of congressional prerogatives. I am against the reinstatement of absolute immunity for each member of the Congress.

However, I believe in a strong legislative branch, a legislative branch capable of remaining really independent from the executive, in the same way I am in favor of a judiciary branch capable of passing judgment without interference from either the executive or the legislative branch. I advocate total independence of the branches of the state. However, I want the powers and the rights of the executive respected as well, just as I refrain from interfering with the prerogatives of the other two branches. I want the executive to be allowed to exercise at least its own prerogatives.

[Question] What are the implications of the Colombian-Brazilian nuclear accord?

[Answer] The implications are that we Brazilians, who are ahead of Colombia as far as nuclear energy is concerned, want to exchange information and experts to help Colombia use nuclear energy for peaceful objectives. In this regard we will do everything possible to make available to Colombia every facility in Brazil.

[Question] Mr President, I would like to know whether Brazil will immediately start transferring alcohol-related information to Colombia, as you have mentioned.

[Answer] Brazil is willing to transfer alcohol technology to any country which wants and is prepared to produce alcohol, because this will help reduce the consumption of imported oil. We have no reasons to restrict the transfer of this technology.

[Question] Some of the businessmen who have come here to Bogota plan to submit to you a proposal to amend the current salary law soon. They believe that the 6-month salary adjustments are currently one of the reasons for unemployment and mass dismissals. They plan to suggest to the government that the 6-month adjustments be replaced by direct, free bargaining between employees and employers. I would like to know what you have to say about this.

[Answer] So far I have not heard from them, but they will be heard out in this issue. This does not mean that I will agree. It all depends on the terms and the viewpoints which they convey to me.

I agree that the 6-month salary adjustments have been one of the factors which contributed to increased inflation. I also agree that the salaries of the workers are losing to inflation. In any case, it is possible to find a solution which may not satisfy both parties, but which may at least reduce the problems of each party.

I thank you gentlemen for this opportunity you have given me. I thank you for the questions which you have asked me on the basis of your interest in the talks I held here in Bogota, and I also thank you for not having been very aggressive with me today.

PRESIDENT COMPLETES SWEARING IN OF CABINET

PA182345 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Excerpt] President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala completed his cabinet today with the appointment of the two ministers needed to complete his cabinet. They are the development and agriculture ministers, Gabriel Melo Guevara and Luis Fernando Londono Capurro, respectively.

The two high-ranking officials were sworn in during a ceremony at noon at Narino Palace. President Turbay Ayala will hold his first meeting tonight with his full government team since the resignations, a few days ago, of government officials running for congressional seats.

REPORTAGE ON CAPTURE OF M-19 GUERRILLAS, LEADERS

PA190103 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Bogota--Two 19 April Movement [M-19] guerrilla units were annihilated by the army in clashes occurring in the southwestern part of the country. A total of 75 guerrillas were captured during the operation, among them the top leaders of the leftist organization, Gen Fernando Landazabal, army commander in chief, reported. He added that 16 extremists and 4 soldiers died during the encounters and that the military forces will continue the antiguerrilla offensive in Pasto, Popayan and CALI. Among the top M-19 leaders arrested are Dr Carlos Toledo Plata, founder of the M-19, and Rosenberg Pabon, also known as Commander Uno, who led the assault on the Dominican Embassy in Bogota in March [as heard] last year. The same source said that Toledo and Pabon are being held as prisoners of war in a military fortress in Tumaco, a Pacific Ocean port.

General Landazabal reported that the clashes with the guerrillas have taken place in the departments of Narino and Putumayo, 650 km southwest of Bogota, close to the Ecuadorean border.

The military authorities did not deny reports that among the M-19 casualties are Ivan Moreno Ospina, Elmer Marin Marin, both members of the M-19 general staff, and guerrilla Carmenza Londono, who acted as M-19 spokesman during the negotiations for the release of the diplomats held outside the Dominican Embassy.

General Landazabal added that the military authorities are trying to establish the identities of the dead.

Trained in Central America

PA181849 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] [intercepted in progress]...that group of rebels came from Central America, where it received military training and foreign aid. They entered Colombia on the side of the Pacific Ocean, where they were awaited by the Colombian troops, for our military intelligence reportedly had been notified on the arrival of these rebels.

Before clashing with the Colombian Army, the rebels seized the town of Puerto Limon, 27 km from Tumaco. They were later surrounded by the Colombian Army, which forced them to flee to Ecuador.

Ecuadorean 'Dirty Deal'

PA190331 Paris AFP in Spanish 2212 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Bogota, 18 Mar (AFP)--The Ecuadorean military authorities have violated international agreements, primarily the Vienna treaty, after turning over to the Colombian authorities more than 50 members of the 19 April Movement (M-19) guerrilla group who requested asylum in that neighboring country, it was reported here today.

The liberal independent newspaper EL BOGOTANO writes today that Ecuadorean militarymen "laid a trap" for the M-19 members and like Pilate "Ecuadorean officials have washed their hands of the matter."

According to the newspaper, the transfer of the guerrillas to Colombia was sternly criticized, even by Ecuadorean parliamentary groups.

It also cites statements by Roque Canadas, Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry adviser, that the insurgents were turned over as an "act of cooperation" between the armies of the two countries.

According to EL BOGOTANO, which quotes "political analysts," the Ecuadorean attitude seeks to "ingratiate itself" with the Colombian Government and armed forces to achieve an eventual support in its current border conflict with Peru.

In short, the newspaper believes that the case of the guerrillas constitutes a "dirty deal" by the Ecuadorean Government.

GUERRILLA SEEKS ASYLUM AT PANAMANIAN EMBASSY

PA180358 Bogota Cadena Radical Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] The presence of a Colombian guerrilla who sought asylum at the Panamanian Embassy was fully confirmed when embassy representatives requested the respective safe-conduct from the Foreign Ministry.

The guerrilla has been identified as Helena Suarez Fonseca, who expressed her fear of being arrested for having participated in the guerrilla invasion of the [word indistinct] factory in Bogota. She is the niece of the Liberal representative of Boyaca Department, Eduardo Fonseca.

Mrs Fonseca Suarez, mother of the guerrilla who sought asylum at the Panamanian Embassy, was surprised and said it was not her daughter. She was surprised at the many phone calls she had received after the news was released. Elena is allegedly linked to one of the urban guerrilla groups operating in the country. It has not been possible to obtain an official confirmation of the case.

EMBASSY-LEVEL TIES ESTABLISHED WITH ST VINCENT

PA182144 Paris AFP in Spanish 0027 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Bogota, 17 Mar (AFP)--The Governments of Colombia and St Vincent and the Grenadines, in the Caribbean, have established diplomatic relations at embassy level, it was officially reported here today.

According to a Foreign Ministry communique, the decision, which was negotiated through their diplomatic embassies in London, was "inspired by the desire to strengthen the friendly ties between the two countries and acting according to the principles and goals of the UN Charter."

REPORTAGE ON EMBASSY CONFLICT WITH CUBA

Decision Expected Soon

PA170002 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 May 81

[Text] The Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry announced that it will make a final decision this week regarding the delicate Ecuadorean-Cuban conflict created when Cuban police invaded the Ecuadorean Embassy in Havana to arrest a group of Cubans who had sought asylum there.

During his talks with our foreign minister, Alfonso Barrera, the Cuban deputy foreign minister maintained that the occupation of the Ecuadorean Embassy had been authorized by the diplomatic mission which went to Cuba to find a way to rescue our ambassador, Jorge Perez Concha.

Since the Cuban Government has not given satisfactory replies to our protests so far, the Ecuadorean decision will be announced next week, the Foreign Ministry said.

Roldos Receives Cuban Envoy

PA172038 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Quito--The Ministry of Foreign Relations has announced that the president of the republic, Jaime Roldos Aguilera, yesterday received Cuban Ambassador Fernando Flores Ibarra. The Ecuadorean chief of state was informed that the Cuban Government has obtained information according to which the Portuguese charge d'affaires in Havana was involved in the preparation of the occupation of the Ecuadorean Embassy in that city by a group of Cubans who kept the Ecuadorean ambassador and his staff as hostages.

President Roldos Aguilera told the Cuban ambassador that those incidents took place prior to the communications forwarded to the Cuban Government by the Ecuadorean Government clearly establishing the Ecuadorean position.

The Ministry of Foreign Relations also referred to reports from Havana according to which Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon had summoned the chiefs of diplomatic missions to read and deliver a document containing the same information supplied to President Roldos Aguilera.

The Ecuadorean Government, refraining from making any statements for the time being, emphasized that the new information in no way changes the government's position, summarized in two basic points:

1. The need for Cuba to apologize;

2. The demand that the Cubans who occupied the Ecuadorean Embassy in Havana be placed under protection of the Ecuadorean Government.

Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon has asked to be received by the Ecuadorean authorities in Quito. He will come to this capital for this purpose in the next few days, the report of the Ministry of Foreign Relations concluded.

Cuba's Alarcon Comments

FL190144 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] When the time comes to judge or take action with regard to the incidents that took place at the Ecuadorean Embassy in Havana, their true origin and the true significance of that action must be kept in mind, Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada has declared in reply to questions by the Ecuadorean press upon arrival in Quito today.

I only know of versions in the reactionary Ecuadorean press in this regard, Alarcon said.

He asserted that the Cuban position in connection with the persons involved in the incidents has been explained in notes that are publicly known. Elsewhere during his interview with the Ecuadorean press, Alarcon expressed optimism about the final outcome of the affair.

Replying to another question by Ecuadorean journalists to the effect that certain political sectors have pressured the Quito government to adopt a radical position on the case, Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon said that obviously I cannot determine the complete content of your question, but from its beginning I can say it is an internal Ecuadorean matter; therefore, I would not want to comment on it.

M-19 GUERRILLAS CAPTURED, RETURNED TO COLOMBIA

PA171552 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Government Minister Carlos Feraud Blum reported the recent capture of 48 members of the Colombian guerrilla 19 April Movement, M-19, and the return of 15 of them to Colombia.

In the first official report on the presence of members of the Colombian guerrillas in Ecuador, fleeing persecution by Colombian Army troops, Minister Feraud said the group included five Costa Rican citizens. He denied the presence of M-19 guerillas in Ecuador number 400 men, as published yesterday.

The report indicated the guerrillas entered Ecuadorean territory through Esmeralda Province, in the northwest part of the country, and through the eastern part of Ecuador.

Minister Feraud said the guerrillas entered the national territory armed, and even opened fire on Ecuadorean forces at the time of their arrest.

The return of guerrillas to Colombia is being conducted, Feraud explained, in compliance with established practices in these cases.

Deputy Reports on Border Area

PA171617 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Esmeralda Deputy Jorge Chiriboga Guerrero reports to Cadena Ecuador Radio from Esmeralda Province--live]

[Excerpt] [Announcer] Mr. Representative, what report do you have on the situation in San Lorenzo?

[Chiriboga] The situation in San Lorenzo can be viewed two ways; one is related to the presence of M-19 [19 April Movement] guerrillas from Colombia. I have first-hand reports from Hugo David Cervantes, president of the Civil Rights Commission [as heard] who has informed me that several persons have surrendered including women and minors. Some of those persons are injured. The largest number, 24, surrendered yesterday. They received food and medicines from the people, who received them warmly. All of them have been taken to the San Lorenzo Naval Base. This is the part regarding the M-19 guerrillas.

We must also note the invasion of Ecuadorean territory by Colombian patrols and helicopters. On Thursday they landed on km 9 of the road to this canton. The heavily armed helicopters carried Colombian soldiers who got out of the helicopters in search of the M-19 guerrillas. I was informed, not long ago, that the Colombian helicopters bombed and machinegunned several coffee plantations, believing that the M-19 guerrillas were there.

Early this morning I sent telegrams to the president, the foreign and defense ministers and all the information media, as well as the Human Rights Commission and the Chamber of Deputies. I protested this violation of our territory by Colombian forces and demanded action by the Ecuadorean Government and the Foreign Ministry, asking them, in particular, to speak to the government and defense ministers.

We are demanding respect for the Colombians who seek asylum and respect for human rights. We are asking the government to guarantee the physical integrity of the Colombians who have surrendered, willingly and peacefully, to our authorities in San Lorenzo. We are concerned because people in San Lorenzo claim that the anti-guerrilla operations are being carried out with the cooperation of the Ecuadorean Army. There is a naval base nearby, and it is said they are helping to hunt down the guerrillas. I have not been able to confirm this.

It was also reported that Colombian Army units and the guerrillas had fought on Ecuadorean territory. If this is true, it is extremely serious, and I am asking the authorities for an explanation and an immediate intervention because this is a serious affair.

Border Being Patrolled

PA190400 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Mar 81

[By Luis Gutierrez]

[Text] The Ecuadorean Army is patrolling the Amazon region bordering on Colombia to prevent 19 April Movement [M-19] guerrillas from crossing the border.

The 56th Tunguragua Jungle Battalion antiguerrilla troops, supported by machinegun-equipped helicopters, are patrolling the border by land and air along the San Miguel and Putumayo Rivers.

The Ecuadorean Army is cooperating with the Colombian Army, which has troops in Puerto Asis, Puerto Colon and San Antonio, to try to prevent the M-19 guerrillas from crossing the border into Ecuadorean territory.

So far, the Ecuadorean military units patrolling the border and the military posts in La Punta, El Conejo and La Bermeja have not reported anything on the M-19 guerrillas. The Ecuadorean authorities have increased the vigilance and control of persons along the border.

## BELIZE

### PREMIER, OFFICIALS MEET PRESS ON LONDON AGREEMENT

FL180210 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The premier has held a press conference for both the local and international press at his office in Belmopan. Minister of state in the premier's office Honorable V.H. Courtenay and minister of health, housing and cooperatives Mr Assad Shoman joined the premier for the press conference.

At the conference, Mr Price said that the important thing about the heads of agreement is that they are in accord with our position set out in resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of American States and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Belize. The premier said that we have maintained these sacred principles in the negotiations.

The conference was attended by representatives of the local press, the BBC correspondents, a reporter from THE DAILY TELEGRAPH of London, a television crew from Guatemala and a reporter from the Mexican paper EXCELSIOR.

### OPPOSITION GROUPS RIOT OVER INDEPENDENCE ACCORD

PA190358 Paris AFP in Spanish 0204 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] Belize, 18 Mar (AFP)--Opposition groups have rioted in Belize's streets protesting the agreement between Great Britain and Guatemala for the territory's independence.

The rioting occurred when the antiriot police clashed with some 300 youths who had taken to the streets shouting slogans of "No to communism," "No to Price" and "No to Guatemala."

This is the second consecutive day in which conservative groups opposed to Prime Minister George Price have rioted in the streets of Belize. The groups protest the agreement on the territory's independence revealed last Monday in Belmopan, capital of Belize.

## COSTA RICA

### GOVERNMENT MOUNTS MASSIVE INVESTIGATION OF BOMBINGS

#### Foreigners Believed Involved

PA181321 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] A Nicaraguan group calling itself the Carlos Aguero Echeverria Command claimed responsibility for the attacks yesterday, claiming they are the result of the open U.S. participation in El Salvador. The commandos are demanding diplomatic relations between Costa Rica and El Salvador be broken.

Meanwhile, national security officials said they had no knolwedge of the existence of such a commando group in Costa Rica or of its participation in similar activities.

Four Nicaraguan citizens were captured last night by security officers who also seized subversive propaganda and a vehicle displaying Nicaraguan license plate NASI-649. [as heard] An investigation was conducted in a residence located 100 meters south, 200 meters east of Carita Maternity Hospital, occupied by a Nicaraguan couple, where a newspaper of communist leanings is edited. It is believed these foreigners are involved in the incidents of yesterday morning.

One person was arrested shortly after the attack on the U.S. Embassy van, but was later released after it was confirmed he had no connection with the action.

At the present time, there are no persons under arrest or suspected in connection with the incident, although it is believed the perpetrators are foreigners who could have some connections with Costa Rican citizens.

### Nicaraguans Arrested

PA181358 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Rodolfo Quiroz Cedeno, director of immigration inspectors, has reported that two Nicaraguans, one of whom was wearing olive trousers, were arrested yesterday near the Honduran Embassy following the attack against it. The men were turned over to the Judicial Investigation Organization. Quiroz added that the foreigners will be held under strict security but care will be taken not to mistreat them.

Meanwhile, Costa Rican employees of the U.S. Embassy have deplored the attack on the embassy, describing it as a shameful action which in no way reflects the feelings of the Costa Rican peoples, as they have always respected peace and free coexistence among peoples.

### Surveillance Increased

PA182254 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The Crime Prevention Unit [UPD] has arrested four foreigners who are being investigated in connection with the two attacks yesterday. They were wearing military clothes and arrested in a house near the Carita Maternity Hospital following a telephone tip. In addition to the UPD investigation, the arrested individuals were sent to the National Security Agency and the immigration office to determine their status in Costa Rica.

National security officials said this morning that the terrorists who wounded five people in Los Yoses yesterday and blew up the Honduran Embassy are in San Jose. Surveillance at the borders and the airports has been duly reinforced and houses are being raided if necessary. The terrorists may be linked to the Nicaraguans who were recently arrested when an attack on the Aranjuez Bank branch was thwarted.

National security forces are working round the clock and the police are in quarters, a Public Security Ministry official said today. Citizens are also being thanked for their cooperation, because several investigations have been made with their help. However, the people are asked to be more specific to avoid misunderstandings and to not distract the security officers who are trying to capture the terrorists.

### Foreigners Targeted in Attacks

PA181355 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] An official of the Security Ministry has said that yesterday's terrorist actions were carried out by persons who had no intention of harming Costa Ricans. Proof of this is that the attacks were aimed at a U.S. Embassy vehicle and the Honduran Embassy. The two attacks were carried out during hours that involved no risk to the citizens, but the perpetrators forgot one detail: the driver of the U.S. Embassy car is a Costa Rican.

This is an offense against our people and we must unite to find the culprits, said Col Johnny Chaverri, assistant director of the National Security Agency.

### Police Raid Protested

PA190053 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Document issued by the Costa Rican Socialist Party and read by party President Alberto Salom--live or recorded]

[Text] On the afternoon of 17 March after the terrorist attacks, the headquarters of the Costa Rican Socialist Party were raided by the Judicial Investigation Organization [OIJ]. According to what was said, the raid was made on the chance that subversive materials might be found there to link us to the terrorist attacks.

We want to tell the nation that the raid was a barbaric military display. Eight heavily armed OIJ members entered the headquarters; they were carrying rifles and even a submachinegun.

As is known, the Socialist Party is legally registered and our offices are always open to all workers, honest men and women who may want to visit us. Therefore, it is absolutely ridiculous to think that there might be subversive materials at our headquarters, which are open to the Costa Rican people.

We can only consider the OIJ action as a most extraordinary act of provocation irresponsible aimed at linking us to the criminal terrorist acts of the morning of 17 March. We cannot understand or accept a display of force such as the OIJ carried out at the headquarters of a legally registered political party.

## VARIOUS SECTORS CONTINUE COMMENT ON BOMBINGS

### Contrast in Reaction Noted

PA181840 San Jose Cadena Internacional de Solidaridad in Spanish 0530 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Via Managua Radio Sandino; Commentary: "Contrast of Reaction to Terrorist Actions"]

[Text] When Radio Noticias del Continente was recently the target of terrorist attacks, most of the news media expressed opposition to the attacks but they supported President Carazo's decision to temporarily close the station, echoing the Latin American dictatorships that have worked for the definite closing of the station.

The powerful bomb that was placed in the Nicaraguan Embassy in San Jose last week and subsequently deactivated by national security agents did not provoke any reaction, and the news media gave very little publicity to this terrorist action.

All the leftist groups condemned the attacks and asked President Carazo to undertake the proper investigations to arrest those responsible.

Meanwhile, a commando group called Carlos Aguero Echeverria Command has taken credit for the attack. [sentence as heard] This is the first time that this unknown group has carried out this type of operation. However, spokesmen of the leftist parties have said that this is a maneuver of the extreme right to distort all that is occurring in the country.

The completely unknown commandos said that the attack sought to protest the open U.S. intervention in the Salvadoran war and to demand that Costa Rica break relations with the Salvadoran Government.

According to the People United spokesman, the usurpers of the name, Commander Carlos Augero Echeverria, have no ties with their organization. Carlos Aguero was a Costa Rican who fought against the Somoza government for many years and died in combat.

The three deputies of the People United coalition categorically stated that such attacks are the work of the extreme right at a time when the reactionary forces are struggling against the democrats and progressives who condemn U.S. intervention in El Salvador and the Reagan administration's pressures against the Sandinist revolution.

Terrorism Result of Marxism

PA182136 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Yesterday's terrorist acts have resulted in the repudiation of all Marxist groups in the country. It is evident that Costa Ricans, who love peace, order and tolerance, have vehemently condemned Marxism because of its terrorist campaign in this country.

It is laughable for the communist deputies and leaders, promoters of political and economic destabilization, to condemn terrorism like peace doves. This is terrorism in the Soviet, Cuban and Vietnamese style; this is Marxist-Leninist terrorism which responds to the international cold war.

Lenin reached power in Russia with such a ridiculous minority that he did not even have enough sympathizers to name a cabinet. Since 1917, Marxism has been the same here and everywhere. It is the same Marxism that is trying to usurp the revolutionary victory in Nicaragua and to use Sandino's name to subject the people to a totalitarian regime the people neither want nor seek.

Sandino wanted a society of free men, not of men who have surrended to Marxism. Terrorism is the result of Marxist teachings in El Salvador, Guatemala and everywhere in the world.

Upon reiterating our protest over yesterday's serious events, we repeat our call to be on the alert so all of us may help find the culprits.

The people, the rank and file, the bulwark of our democracy, must participate in this. We have no army and do not want one. We do not have a well-trained repressive police force to fight this phenomena or social cancer. Only with the help of the entire people will it be possible to find the culprits, the very tiny minority of Costa Ricans and foreigners who are trying to disrupt order and to bring about chaos in this country.

WEAPONS, AMMUNITION SEIZED AT OCHOMOGO HOME

PA190326 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] The Judicial Investigation Organization [OIJ] and the Civil Guard have seized a considerable amount of weapons and ammunition in a private home in Alto de Ochomogo. The public security minister said that the Cartago station had received reports to the effect that some persons were engaged in suspicious activities. The authorities then secretly watched the home where the suspicious activities were being conducted.

When nothing abnormal was detected, it was decided to raid the place. The security minister announced that the following materiel was found there: 1,096 rounds of .30-caliber ammunition, an M-1 carbine, 227 rounds for .30-caliber Garand rifles, a .32-caliber pistol, 387 rounds of 5.56-caliber [as heard; millimeter] ammunition for M-16 rifles, 5 clips of 5.56 [millimeter], 2 clips for M-14's, 6 clips of .45-caliber ammunition, 59 rounds of .45-caliber ammunition, a [word indistinct], and 19 rounds of ammunition for a .12-caliber rifle.

EX-SECURITY MINISTER ARRESTED FOR MISAPPROPRIATION

PA140425 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Text] Carlos Arguedas le Franc, former public security minister, has been arrested by the Judicial Investigation Organization, OIJ, on embezzlement charges. According to what Arguedas le Franc himself and OIJ have said, at a house he is building in Cerro Azul authorities found four empty sacks of cement marked "government property."

As a result, the OIJ immediately ordered an investigation and summoned the former minister. An OIJ spokesman reported that the third district attorney's office will investigate the case and will study the evidence presented by the OIJ. Meanwhile the former minister will remain under arrest until he is either released or brought before a court of justice.

Arturo le Franc will be the defense attorney for the former public security minister, who resigned from his post a short time ago for personal reasons, according to him.

During a news conference, the former minister said his case is not unusual and is the result of the [attitude] of authorities to which public officials and former officials are exposed.

Arguedas le Franc said he has confidence in divine and earthly justice and for this reason he is awaiting his trial calmly. He does not know how the cement sacks got to his construction site or who may have put them there:

[Begin Arguedas le Franc recording] All public officials are exposed to investigations, and it is our obligation to explain our actions even after we leave public service. I have been accused of embezzlement because in Cerro Azul, where I have started building a cottage--which is in its initial phase--government property was found.

I have taken the charges with good peace of mind. I believe justice is the fundamental basis of a country such as ours. The republic is based on three keystones. One of them is justice. Justice is the foundation on which the [word indistinct] of all Costa Ricans must rest. We must abide by justice. Force without justice means injustice. Justice without force makes no sense. Powers must be well balanced. Justice has a very important function. We don't live in a totalitarian country. This is a democratic and de jure state and I believe we must support the liberties we have and that we must be prepared to face any accusation. [end recording]

Released on Bail

PA190348 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Mar 81

[Text] The first district tribunal has ruled that former Public Security Minister Carlos Arguedas le Franc is to be released from prison. The same tribunal also ordered the release of the Tarrazu Canton delegate and of a Public Security Ministry official who, together with Arguedas le Franc, were charged with embezzlement.

The former public security minister was released on payment of a 10,000-colones bail. The Canton delegate was released on parole, and the Public Security Ministry official paid a 2,500-colones bail.

Mr Arguedas le Franc said that his release shows that justice prevails in Costa Rica and that he has full confidence in this justice.

RADIO STATION INVESTIGATION ENDS INCONCLUSIVELY

PA190002 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The final document on the investigation by the criminal prosecutors regarding the case of the Radio Noticias del Continente guards was forwarded to the president of the republic. The investigation conducted by Roberto (Stignel), Fernando Ramirez and Jose Francisco Peralta, of the Public Security Ministry, was delivered to the president by Justice Minister Elizabeth Odio. It was a thorough investigation, just as the president wanted, it included depositions by administrative officers and the alleged offended parties in the case.

The document says that no specific conclusions could be reached. The reports by the alleged offended parties were just that and the other evidence gathered does not shed light on the incidents, the document states. The fact that the Judicial Investigation Organization officials in Alajuela did not cooperate as requested also did not help to complete the picture. We are just waiting for the courts of law to rule, the justice minister added.

## EL SALVADOR

ARMY BEGINS TO USE NEW WEAPONS RECEIVED FROM U.S.

PA181548 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 17 Mar 81 p 2

[Text] The army has begun to use the new weapons received from the United States in its struggle against local and international terrorists, according to statements made by military sources.

In this regard, it has been stated that the most intensive operations being carried out by the army have taken place in Morazan Department. Many soldiers are reportedly engaged in that battle and, according to reports, they are using the new weapons and helicopters that the armed forces have received from the United States.

The reports indicate that the area around Perquin, on the border with Honduras, has been the scene of the most intensive fighting between the army and the terrorists who, according to the same sources, have manpower support from other countries.

On the other hand, the sources indicated that in the area around Guazapa Hill and Suchitoto, fighting between the two bands has continued.

It has been mentioned that some of the U.S. advisers who have come to the country have devoted their time exclusively to teaching how to handle some of the new weapons that are being used.

Further Details

PA190350 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2207 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--For the 12th consecutive day the Salvadoran Army was today continuing an antiguerrilla operation in northern El Salvador with the support of four new helicopters it has received from the United States.

The battles in Suchitoto and Morazan and nearby small villages began on 7 March when the army discovered guerrilla camps in the area.

Four Huey helicopters arrived today at Ilopango Airport in San Salvador aboard a U.S. Air Force transport from the navy air base in Corpus Christi.

This now makes 10 helicopters of the same type that the United States has sent to El Salvador as part of the $40 million military aid package.

The military aid also includes 60 U.S. military personnel to train small combat groups and to give direct assistance to the military high command.

U.S. Congressman Clarence D. Long, who spent 2 days in El Salvador, did not like the way this is being done; if the Salvadoran Government wishes to train its soldiers it should do so outside the country.

According to unofficial reports, Congressman Long, who should have left for Costa Rica yesterday, changed plans and flew directly to Panama, supposedly as a result of the attack on U.S. marines in San Jose.

The U.S. Embassy in this capital was machinegunned by unidentified persons at noon yesterday when Congressman Long still had not left the country and 20 minutes after a news conference in which Long strongly disapproved of U.S. military aid to El Salvador and the country's agrarian reform program.

Meanwhile, the authorities today found the bodies of four youths who were brutally slain. They bodies were torn apart and charred. This took place in Ciudad Delgado, a small town northeast of San Salvador.

According to official reports, leftist groups have dynamited a total of 80 electric powerline towers, which has left many towns totally without electricity and others with irregular service.

LONG EXPRESSES SATISFACTION WITH DUARTE'S REPLIES

PA181906 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 17 Mar 81 p 3

[Text] "I had good questions and I have received good answers," U.S. Congressman Clarence Dickinson Long, a Democrat, said yesterday after a 2-hour meeting with Jose Napoleon Duarte, president of the government junta.

Long is chairman of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. He was accompanied on his visit to the presidential palace by three of his economic advisers and by Frederic Chapin, charge d'affaires of the U.S. embassy in our country.

According to Long, he obtained "good answers from Duarte, and I am glad that I came to El Salvador to get a firsthand view of what is happening here."

Regarding the meeting, Long said: "I believe that we were in agreement."

Long has come to the country to gather extensive information for the possible granting of $140 million in aid by the government of Ronald Reagan, who has professed to favor the government junta. Long added that an additional $5 million in aid "is still under consideration."

The congressman came from Maryland to discuss the situation in El Salvador and economic aid to the government junta.

FMLN'S RADIO VENCEREMOS RESUMES TRANSMISSIONS

WA182000 [Editorial Report] Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador was heard again on 18 March at 1200 GMT. The clandestine station, which is the voice of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], was last heard on 10 March at 1200 GMT.

RADIO VENCEREMOS LABELS REAGAN 'CRIMINAL'

PA181524 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] When Central America executed William Walker in 1860, one of his followers wrote: From each drop of blood shed by William Walker, (?many) filibusters will emerge to [word indistinct] Latin America. In the 20th century, the corpse of William Walker is alive again, embodied in Ronald Reagan who is currently carrying out in Central America the same interventionist and genocidal policy against the Central American people. Ronald Reagan is this century's William Walker.

President Reagan constantly appears on U.S. television making statements on our domestic affairs as if we were already a U.S. colony. Let's listen to Ronald Reagan's voice. Let's listen to the voice of the criminal who is currently bringing bloodshed to El Salvador through a puppet junta which, in order to defend the interests of 14 families and U.S. imperialism, is sowing terror and death in Salvadoran territory: [indistinct recording of Reagan].

President Reagan said that one of the reasons why the United States supports the current Salvadoran Government is that this government represents one of the best hopes to improve the standard of living of the Salvadoran people.

Regarding the hopes that the Salvadoran dictatorial junta represents to the Salvadoran people, here is a survivor of the massacre of Junquillo, in Morazan Department. This massacre was carried out by troops of the Salvadoran dictatorship under the leadership of the U.S. advisers and Green Berets sent this week by Ronald Reagan. Let's listen to this survivor of the Junquillo massacre: [indistinct recording of woman].

There were the hopes [words indistinct] to improve the standard of living of the Salvadoran people. The Junquillo massacre has even more [words indistinct]. Radio Venceremos is making known to the world that the U.S. advisers and Green Berets in Junquillo, Morazan Department, directed one of the most horrible massacres against the civilian population in Latin America's history. Let's continue to hear in the voice of a girl the testimony of this barbarism that continues to be carried out in Morazan after 6 days of criminal shelling: [indistinct recording of girl]

Peoples of the world, the fighters of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front are fighting against these actions.

'LARGE-SCALE' ARMS TRAFFICKING CASE UNCOVERED

PA182215 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 18 Mar 81 pp 2, 36

[Excerpt] According to initial reports, the Salvadoran Armed Forces have uncovered a large-scale arms trafficking operation estimated to be worth several million dollars. Participating in the arms trafficking were Salvadoran pilots and foreign mercenaries.

As a result, authorities have intervened in the operations of the air taxi company known as Urgente, Inc, which operates at the Ilopango Airport and which has connections in Central America, Mexico, Panama and with other airlines, according to its contracts.

Yesterday it was reported that Felix Timoteo Umana, manager of Urgente, Inc at San Miguel, and several employees were arrested on Monday.

Yesterday morning, it was announced that Luis Carlos Garcia Montoya, Urgente Inc, general manager had committed suicide in one of the national police cells where he had been held under arrest for 2 days. He was allegedly involved in the arms trafficking case.

Official reports say that first a civilian pilot was captured in San Salvador. Several firearms were found in his possession and he testified how he had obtained the arms. In this manner, the armed forces were able to uncover the large-scale smuggling of weapons, which apparently have been involved with the international-Salvadoran guerrillas and the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

The authorities suspect that the arms smugglers have been connected with the cases of the mercenary planes which have been reportedly operating in our country in recent months.

It was said that Urgente Inc employees who worked in San Miguel and at the Ilopango International Airport, near the Civil Aviation Club, have been arrested.

It was also said yesterday that authorities have intervened in the operations of the company for the duration of the investigation or until it is established who is responsible for the arms trafficking.

All of the employees who have been arrested are being interrogated.

The Salvadoran planes that had been flying to Panama had their flight plans through to Panama, but they changed course and landed at San Miguel, where it is believed they loaded gold bars to take them to Panama and Costa Rica, where the arms purchasing operations were always conducted, for deposit in banks.

The authorities suspect there are several other persons involved in this case.

ARMY ORGANIZING ANTIGUERRILLA 'DEFENSE COMMAND UNITS'

PA181856 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 17 Mar 81 pp 5, 40

[Excerpts] Combined mobile and permanent defense commando units will be organized by the army to fight effectively against terrorist groups, military analysts said yesterday.

At present the U.S. military advisers are training a special combat company which will to into action as soon as it is ready. The company will fight in a second phase of the military offensive that has been prepared.

This special corps is named the Atlacatl Brigade, in honor of the Salvadoran Indian chief who fought against the Spanish conquerors according to history.

It is calculated that this brigade, to be made up of 2,000 men, will be ready in the next few days, having received enough antiguerrilla training and preparation to fight effectively in both towns and in the mountains.

The sources emphasized that the special units will be transported in UH-1 Huey helicopters.

The sources added that the commando units will be under the command of officers instead of being under sergeants as was the case until recently. These officers are receiving special training.

REPORTAGE ON GOVERNMENT, GUERRILLA COMBAT ACTIONS

Army Antiguerrilla Plan

PA171731 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 16 Mar 81 p 8

[Text] An armed forces spokesman has said that a vigilance system now exists throughout Sonsonate Department in view of the possible existence of terrorist cells. Constant operations are being carried out in the rural and urban areas in Sonsonate.

In one of these operations implemented by the army in Coquiano Canton, two Fal rifles were found at a place where the brush had been set on fire to flush out several subversives who escaped.

Meanwhile, Col Maximiliano Leyva, chief of the 6th military detachment, and his unit, are actively working to maintain law and order throughout the department. The same spokesman urged the people of Sonsonate to observe the curfew in order to avoid personal risks and avoid creating problems for the armed forces.

## Army-Guerrilla Confrontations

PA171243 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 16 Mar 81 pp 9, 31

[Excerpts] For the third consecutive day, up until yesterday, the Salvadoran Army continued to fight the guerrillas in Morazan where so-called heavy fighting has occurred in an effort by the armed forces to evict hundreds of rebels from several camps.

The fighting, according to reports, is underway particularly north of San Francisco Gotera, near the Honduran border.

Recently the army has had confrontations in Perquin and Jocoaitique, towns under its control after the defeat of various groups, especially of the People's Revolutionary Army which was the most active in those areas.

Meanwhile, it was reported that on Saturday a terrorist group ambushed a miltary convoy as it was on its way to Aguacayo Canton in Suchitoto, 44 km north of the capital, where fighting against the rebels has already continued for 8 days.

So far the number of casualties on either side is unknown but it was reported that a full report will be made when the operation is over.

The capital has also been shaken in the past few days by shooting in some sections.

For instance, on Friday evening leftwing squads attacked the Treasury Police stations but there were no casualties, according to official sources. Flares fired by the army were seen a few kilometers away.

Similar attacks occurred near the (currently occupied) national university, at a power plant near the capital and at Centennial Park.

A communique by the Popular Liberation Forces says that the army suffered 60 casualties in Guazapa, but Defense Minister Col Jose Guillermo Garcia denied that. He noted that throughout the campaign against subversion, which begun on 10 January, only 146 regular soldiers and officers have died as opposed to 2,000 terrorist fighters killed during fighting in various places. "The guerrillas have lost everything: weapons, men and popular support," the minister said.

## Threat to San Vicente

PA180148 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 16 Mar 81 p 28

["National Summary" column: "Threatened Invasion of San Vicente"]

[Text] Members of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] occupied the "Ana Guerra de Jesus" District in San Vicente and forced the residents to leave their homes and participate in a meeting. The residents were threatened with execution if they do not cooperate with the guerrillas in the coming days during an announced operation to occupy San Vicente.

During the meeting they insisted that "at the end of this month, the FMLN, with the support of other organizations, will surround San Vicente and attack, occupy and turn it into a subversive bulwark." They forced the listeners to cheer and applaud the FMLN and at the end of the meeting took money and other objects as "contributions to the revolution." The speakers told the residents not to believe reports on the surrender of extremists. "This is not true," they said.

"Revolutionaries die, but they do not surrender."

They conceded, however, that the army has seized large quantities of weapons and ammunition.

### Power Outages

PA181601 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 16 Mar 81 p 7

[Text] Three powerline towers between San Martin and Tonacatepeque were toppled by extremists who used saws and other equipment. This shows that the extremists are almost out of ammunition and bombs for their activities and more importantly, they are totally defeated.

It was reported that the terrorists' action blackened important areas of San Martin and Tonacatepeque for several hours, but the service was reestablished by workers.

### 'Fierce Fighting' in Cabanas

PA180423 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 17 Mar 81 p 3

[Excerpt] Troops of border detachment No 2 of Sensuntepeque and commandos of other brigades of the armed forces yesterday succeeded in penetrating cantons of Villa Victoria, Canasa, which were occupied by guerrillas. Fierce fighting ensued in which Lt Francisco Salvador Estrada Salguero, 23, and Cpl Jose Martir Barahona Romero, 19, died when they commanded the unit that broke the extremist resistance.

The army offensive began during the dawn hours at the El Zapote Canton, 4 km north of Villa Victoria, where there are several guerrilla camps.

A military source in Sensuntepeque said that the situation in the north of Cabanas is fairly grave and that the fighting being waged there is testing the technical ability of the army. It was hinted that many extremists have died in the clashes since yesterday in Villa Victoria, but until the situation is entirely under control, it will not be possible to give statistics about enemy casualties, since there are special units in the rear guard to do this.

### Army Report on Cabanas

PA190427 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 18 Mar 81 pp 2, 9

[Excerpt] The armed forces announced yesterday it was in full control of the situation in Villa Victoria, Cabanas Department and all cantons. The armed forces announced that many of the extremists who had been threatening the people in the area for several days were killed.

It was also reported that search operations have continued in various rural areas of Morazan, La Paz, Cuscatlan, Chalatenango, La Union, Usulutan, San Miguel Departments and others.

Concerning the land, air and sea patrol, the military spokesman said that they will continue in order to prevent the infiltration of mercenaries and smuggled weapons.

Clashes have been reported in some areas near Suchitoto, Arcatao, Las Vueltas, Gotera, Conchagua, Sensuntepeque, Chalatenango, San Miguel and others.

In several places, such as Villa Victoria, Sensuntepeque, Conchagua, Suchitoto and Tecoluca, the army has dismantled several extremist camps.

In those operations, the military has seized weapons coming from the Soviet Union, via Cuba and Nicaragua, which are part of the armaments previously seized by the armed forces.

We were told yesterday that the patrolling in San Salvador and other important cities of the country will be intensified to establish greater control against the extremist groups.

'Heavy Fighting' Near Honduras

PA181951 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] It was officially reported today that heavy fighting has been raging for 3 days between guerrillas and the armed forces in the area of Chorrera del Guayabo, 12 km from the Salvadoran-Honduran border. Dozens are dead or wounded.

The cantons of San Jeronimo and San Felipe and the hills around them in the border department of Cabanas are the scene of heavy clashes involving bombing, artillery barrages and infantry troops.

In addition, it has been reported that the towns at stake in this instance are of strategic importance because the November 5th hydroelectric plant, El Salvador's largest with a generating capacity of 80,000 kw, is located in the area.

According to an army officer, the insurgents are trying to encircle the neighboring hills to seize the hydroelectric plant. To accomplish this they apparently have over 500 men with support from heavy equipment they have received from some neighboring country, the officer said. Their forces include Cubans and Panamanians, since the inhabitants have told us they have seen tall black men with large mouths there, the source added.

The efforts of the government forces have been fruitless so far despite the bombings and the use of 105- and 120-mm howitzers as well as 81-mm mortars, several soldiers admitted.

FMLN War Bulletin

PA181807 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 18 Mar 81

["War Bulletin No 6" [number as heard] of the General Command of the Francisco Sanchez northeastern front of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN]]

[Text] Beginning on Monday, 9 March 1981, forces of the genocidal military-Christian Democratic junta began an extermination operation against the population and an attack on our positions. Since that time, our forces have taken the initiative, inflicting five casualties on the enemy on the paved road to San Francisco Gotera, near the town of Jocoaitique, while the enemy forces were travelling aboard private vehicles to take up positions in Morazan Department. This occurred at dawn on 9 March.

That same day, [words indistinct] Torola River at [words indistinct] at 0900, our forces ambushed the enemy's [words indistinct], inflicting nine casualties. That day we sustained one wounded.

Since then, the enemy's actions have sowed death and sorrow among the civilian population. Each house and family that has fallen in its hands has been a house that has been burned and a family that has been murdered. The objective of the enemy troops is to fulfill that cowardly genocidal mission and to loot and destroy livestock and crops.

The tactic of the enemy [words indistinct] that is the (?higher ground). These enemy movements have been constantly observed by our forces. That is why they have always been surprised by our ambushes and attacks and [words indistinct].

In this way, we inflicted three casualties in [name indistinct] canton when they tried to penetrate our defense lines. On the 13th, when they were going to sleep in Junquillo, they sustained one casualty during a surprise attack. On 14 March, at the Torola River in La Estancia Canton, they sustained five more casualties in another ambush using contact bombs. On our part, a young companero militiaman died.

Besides these actions, there are also the daily clashes along the defense line where the superiority in morale and the use of the terrain by our forces has achieved the containment and sometimes the flight of the enemy despite our (?inferiority) in number.

Along the Torola River, a firing line was established from El Zapotal, [names indistinct] from where the enemy's positions along the [words indistinct] were attacked. As a result of this attack, [words indistinct] and then snipers in strategic positions [words indistinct] near the enemy lines to inflict casualties on them if they tried to move [words indistinct].

All of these actions took place under the fire of [words indistinct]. This shelling is maintained night and day and its worst effects have been felt by the civilian population. The helicopers land, bringing ammunition and troops, and uselessly try to locate our positions.

With the death of many women, children and old people, one can see the U.S. Government's aid in bullets, grenades, mortars and bombs. Thousands of dollars are spent in exterminating people who are determined to achieve their definite freedom. This genocide ordered by the military dictatorship also has the [word indistinct] of the aggression of the U.S. Government in a legitimate and just popular war against injustice and slaughter.

This war bulletin does not give details of the operations that are daily carried out in the paved road south of San Francisco Gotera since they have not all been confirmed.

Revolution or death! We shall win! United to fight until the final victory! (?2300) hours, 15 March 1981, year of El Salvador's liberation.

Commander Jorge (Melandro), commander of the Francisco Sanchez northeastern front and member of the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front.

## Further on Morazan Action

PA181432 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The situation in the Francisco Sanchez northeastern front in Morazan Department today, 18 March, has not essentially changed. The army continues its constant shelling of extensive peasant areas. Yesterday, the air force strafed 150 villages of Morazan Department. It also dropped phosphorous bombs near Cerro Pando. Reports from those places indicate that hundreds of women, children and old people are in danger due to the constant machinegunning, artillery and air force action over this area in Morazan Department.

In this afternoon's program at 1800 we will issue a complete war bulletin. It will be a new program containing all the information on events in the national territory, the attacks on the U.S. embassies in different points of Central America and news information on the attack on the town of San Miguel and the National Police and Treasury Police installations in San Miguel, El Salvador's third most important city. Radio Venceremos will continue to report beginning at 1800.

### Army 'Massacres,' Atrocities

PA181908 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, of El Salvador, has asked international humanitarian organizations to send representatives to that Central American country to confirm the genocide being committed by junta troops with the aid of U.S. advisers and U.S. weapons.

An FMLN communique announces the massacres in Morazan, Cabanas and San Vicente Departments committed by the Salvadoran troops against the civilian population. The document mentions the cases of numerous children whom the soldiers killed by sticking machete points in their spines, and women who were raped before being murdered.

### JOINT WORK BEGINS ON MARKING BORDER WITH HONDURAS

PA151709 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 14 Mar 81 pp 5, 48

[Excerpts] According to Dr Fidel Chavez Mena, Salvadoran foreign minister, the Honduran-Salvadoran border commission has already begun the preliminary demarcation of the border established in the general peace treaty.

He added that special international organizations are helping with the initial part of this work and that after holding several meetings, the mixed commission has issued its internal regulations and has outlined a work plan, thus beginning the preliminary demarcation of undefined sections of the border.

Regarding possible withdrawal of the OAS military observers from the border with Honduras, the foreign minister said that the two governments will study the mechanisms that are to be followed in order to bring about their withdrawal.

## GUATEMALA

### FOREIGN MINISTER 'OPTIMISTIC' ABOUT BELIZE PACT

PA172304 Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez has expressed optimism about the course of events following the signing of the agreement published last night.

[Begin recording] From now on, all Guatemalans who have followed this issue with so much interest will be able to express an opinion, which will undoubtedly be valuable, because the opinion of all Guatemalans will determine the conduct of the Guatemalan Government.

Regarding the possibility of a plebiscite, or of an approval by the legislature or by a joint membership of the legislature and the state council, that is a matter that will have to be decided by lawyers, particularly those who are specialists in constitutional law.

The government will have to honor the decision reached by the Guatemalan people. [end recording]

### POLITICAL PARTIES DIFFER ON BELIZE AGREEMENT

PA172326 Guatemala City Radio Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] There was controversy among local political sectors today regarding the agreement reached by Guatemala and Great Britain on Belize.

Luis Alfonso Lopez, secretary general of the Nationalist Authentic Central [CAN], commented briefly on the agreement but said that his party will study the issue in depth:

[Begin recording] Undoubtedly, as a political party, we have to study the issue and we are going to do so through the bodies established and empowered by the party statutes to conduct such reviews. Therefore, as soon as we have a copy of the document in hand, we will send it to those bodies, particularly our political committee, for study and analysis and then to our committee of professionals. After they have made a pronouncement, the CAN, as a legally established institution, will make what we consider to be the most appropriate statement.

[Question] Based on what was said during the news conference today, is this solution honorable?

[Answer] Yes, of course. Of course it is honorable. This is a solution that, as I said some moments ago, is effective and definitive in that no one can dispute that a procedure has been established to put an end to this dispute over Belize. [end recording]

The top leader of the CAN, former President Carlos Arana Osorio, who attended today's official ceremony, expressed the personal opinion that the Guatemalan Government has acted wisely in the Belize conflict.

[Begin recording] It is my personal opinion that the Belize issue was lost in both the legal and international spheres. This government has done everything possible to obtain a portion of what was lost to Guatemala, since it arranged for a strip giving Guatemala free access to the Atlantic, which it did not have before.

[Question] As a citizen, would you be satisfied with that solution?

[Answer] Today, the people should be glad with what has been given to them. The reasons are clearly explained and I do not believe that Guatemala would be in a position to oppose this situation. [end recording]

The Christian Democratic party [DCG] has announced that it will issue a statement tomorrow on the agreement on Belize announced today. However, DCG Secretary General Vinicio Cerezo gave his opinion in this regard:

[Begin recording] The manner in which the Belize problem has been settled at this time--and this is separate from the official opinion that the party will issue subsequently--is no more than the sad result of a long series of errors committed in Guatemala's foreign policy.

It is obvious that the government and the people of Guatemala have no choice but to accept the conditions that are being imposed--conditions which are obviously neither honorable nor appropriate for Guatemala--but conditions that cannot be opposed or changed, since Guatemala now has no international support of any kind. This is due primarily to the fact, as I have noted, that for the past 20 or 25 years, there has been a policy so erroneous and confused as to have made us one of the most isolated countries in the world. [end recording]

The Nationalist United Front, FUN, reacted tonight to the agreement signed in London by issuing a document consisting of three points:

1. The FUN is in total disagreement with the indecorous, in the communique's words, manner in which this territorial conflict is being resolved.

2. The authorities should review the terms to which our foreign minister subscribed, because under article 1, title 10 of the constitution, Belize is an integral part of the national territory. Any agreement that provides for the independence of a part of our territory is unconstitutional in every respect since it would violate the law that created the republic.

3. Finally, the FUN document says, we state for the record that the FUN condemns any concession by government officials to the influence of powerful nations and reminds those guilty of it that future generations will condemn their having given away a part of our territory in the middle of the 20th century, thereby losing a strategic option to defend the national sovereignty.

Meanwhile, the high command of the National Liberation Movement [MLN] announced that it will hold an emergency meeting tomorrow afternoon to analyze the agreement on Belize. AFter that meeting, the MLN will issue a statement in this regard.

Alfredo Lopez Estrada, an MLN deputy, said in response to a question about the Belize issue that he and other deputies from his party have been instructed to refrain from commenting until the official party statement is issued tomorrow.

Former mayoral candidate Jose Maria Ruiz Forlan, known as Father Chinita, commented on the British-Guatemalan agreement:

[Begin recording] I believe that, for the sake of peace in Guatemala, this should be considered a fait accompli. As I have been saying for some time, this was a more or less worldwide feeling, and Guatemala could not remain completely isolated in such a de facto situation, even if it could claim historical rights and the fact that Belize is Guatemala. [end recording]

In another quarter, Raul Sierra Franco, secretary of the Secretariat of Central American Economic Integration, SIECA, explained the conditions under which Belize could join the Central American Common Market:

[Begin recording] The acceptance of a new member would require an in-depth study of the status of the prospective member and the acceptance by that member of the already signed instruments implying rights and obligations.

After this is done, a protocol to the general treaty incorporating another member would have to be signed.

I believe that the entry, not only of Belize, but also of Panama, whose entry has been mentioned, would strengthen the Central American bloc because there would then be an expansion of markets.

The fact that this agreement has been reached has the advantage of ending the conflict and could possibly pave the way for the development of Peten, with the free highway access that was mentioned--the free circulation of merchandise and persons mentioned--which would provide for easy access by sea to products coming from Peten. [end recording]

COMMITTEE ORGANIZED TO NEGOTIATE BELIZE TREATY

PA181549 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Guatemala has proceeded to organize the mission that will continue negotiations with Great Britain on the basis of understanding. Our country has proceeded immediately, and in conformity with the bases of understanding regarding the dispute on Belize, to organize the mission that, along with the delegations from Great Britain and Belize, will work on the international agreements that will fulfill the terms of the trilateral understanding in order to formally and definitely solve the conflict over the territory of Belize.

The mission, or committee, will be made up of individuals of proven ability in matters related to the problem, particularly expect lawyers.

ARMY KILLS 4 GUERRILLAS IN EL QUICHE CLASH

PA181922 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Four guerrillas were killed yesterday afternoon during a clash with the army in San Juan Cotzal, El Quiche, but they have not been identified, official sources have reported.

The sources reported that the rebels clashed with a military patrol, and that the authorities recovered weapons, medicines, food and clothing left behind by the rebels, who were pursued by the military for several hours.

TWO 'REBEL' GROUPS CLASH IN SUCHITEPEQUEZ

PA181921 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Official sources have reported that so far the indentity of two guerrillas killed during an armed clash in La Selva Canton, Suchitepequez, has not been established. The authorities have tried to identify the guerrillas by comparing them with pictures of rebels they have.

According to our correspondents, two heavily armed groups clashed yesterday at 0200. Apparently, the rebels were travelling on the route to the south when they suddenly ran into a similar group and engaged in a fierce battle. As a result, two individuals were killed while several were probably injured.

The two men seem to be young Nicaraguans; that is, in spite of the fact that nothing is known about them, it is said that they were apparently young Nicaraguans. One of them was wearing a belt with a buckle bearing the initials (?FAR), but there was no other means of identification.

ORPA CLAIMS SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS IN EARLY MARCH

PA181904 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The Armed People's Revolutionary Organization, ORPA, claims to have inflicted 116 casualties, including dead and wounded, on the Guatemalan Army in clashes during the first 15 days of March.

In the same period, ORPA also claims to have gained control over eight farms in the southern part of the country.

EGP DENIES KIDNAPPING DOCTOR ALVAREZ RUIZ

PA181514 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2219 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 16 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The clandestine People's Guerrilla Army (EGP) reported today it is not involved in the kidnapping of Dr Bayardo Alvarez Ruiz, brother of the Guatemalan government minister.

In a press communique sent to the local newspapers, the EGP leftist guerrillas deny having kidnapped the doctor on 8 March at the Roosevelt Hospital.

Doctor Alvarez Ruiz is a brother of Government Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz.

## HONDURAS

### FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ON SAN JOSE BOMBING

PA181636 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The following is the text of a Honduran Foreign Ministry communique:

The Foreign Ministry of the republic wishes to report to the Honduran people that at 0800 yesterday, a terrorist attack was made against the building occupied by the Honduran Embassy in Costa Rica, causing considerable damage.

Immediately following the incident, which fortunately did not result in personal injuries, President of the Republic Rodrigo Carazo Odio and Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus contacted the Honduran ambassador, Albertina Bernhard de Zelaya, to express their indignation for this unfortunate incident and stress that the Costa Rican Government would conduct the necessary investigation to establish responsibility and apply the full weight of the laws that regulate the country's internal security and order.

The Honduran ambassador has taken all the required precautions under the present circumstances to continue attending normally to embassy business.

The Honduran Government, through its Foreign Ministry, deplores this incident and hopes the Costa Rican authorities will investigate the case, confirming the fraternal bonds that have always existed between the two countries.

### MINISTER ON BELIZE, TRIPARTITE AXIS, OTHER ISSUES

PA171757 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] According to Honduran Foreign Minister Cesar Elvir Sierra, the possibility of forming an economic, political and military axis among Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador has not been discarded. An interview with the foreign minister by newsman Gustavo R. Rubi follows:

[Begin recording in progress] [Elvir] Yes, the work of the mixed border commission will continue as well as the steps already undertaken to negotiate a trade treaty. You may have noticed that we have two commissions, one is governmental, the other is technical [words indistinct]. These commissions alternating between the two countries, will continue with this topic. (?It is even possible that in the course of the next few weeks) we may again be visited by the Salvadoran commission in order to continue with this effort.

[Question] According to the Salvadoran foreign minister, it is necessary to hold a summit meeting, but a meeting of Central American foreign ministers should be held first.

[Answer] Well, this has been a possibility since March last year, when a meeting of foreign ministers was held in Costa Rica. Later, in November, we held another meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica. On that occasion we planned to hold another meeting, possibly this month. Unfortunately, this has not been possible. However, I do believe that in order to analyze the area's problems, a meeting of this type is needed.

[Question] Will you be meeting with the Nicaraguan foreign minister?

[Answer] No, there are no short-term plans in connection with this.

[Question] Will the next summit meeting seek to strengthen the Central American defense council?

[Answer] No, nothing specific has been said about this. That is absolutely false.

[Question] Regarding the negotiations between Great Britain and Guatemala, will Honduras continue to uphold the principle of nonintervention?

[Answer] Honduras has always felt that any negotiation between the Governments of Guatemala and Great Britain would succeed as longas the rights of the Belizean people were respected. Within that framework, however, it is also important to stress that whatever the decision made by England and Guatemala, Honduras also reserves its rights over the [words indistinct] cays in the Gulf of Honduras.

[Question] The Salvadoran foreign minister has not discarded the possibility of forming an axis among Honduras, Cuatemala and El Salvador. Would this be a political, economic and military axis?

[Answer] The international press has been speculating about such an axis. I think that as you can see, what really exists at this point is a manifest desire to maintain good relations. This is the same political position that we maintain toward other countries to the south. [end recording]

ARMY ACCUSED OF FIGHTING WITH SALVADORAN FORCES

PA181921 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The Honduran Coordinating Board of Solidarity with El Salvador has charged that a battalion comprising 1,000 regular soldiers of the Tegucigalpa regime is participating alongside Salvadoran troops in operations that have been carried out in Morazan Department since 11 March.

Meanwhile, 40 labor, peasant, student and professional Honduran organizations have filed a suit before the Supreme Court of Justice and the Constituent Assembly in favor of Salvadoran leader Facundo Guardado, who was arrested in Tegucigalpa in January. After demanding respect for the life of Guardado, who has been savagely tortured during his arrest, the Honduran organizations said the Honduran Army should be prohibited from entering El Salvador.

HONDURAS, VENEZUELA SIGN OIL SUPPLY, AID AGREEMENTS

PA171918 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Yesterday Honduras and Venezuela affirmed their decision to further strengthen their bonds when the Honduran economy minister and the Venezuelan energy and mines minister, in the presence of the respective presidents of the central banks of the two countries, signed the agreements for oil supply and financial aid by Venezuela to Honduras.

The first of the two documents establishes that Venezuela will supply 6,000 barrels of crude daily to Honduras, which is the equivalent to half the domestic needs. The balance is supplied by Mexico.

Venezuelan Minister Humberto Calderon Berti said that his country, taking into consideration the higher costs of energy since 1979, decided it was necessary to sign regional agreements to create a program designed to alleviate economic problems of the nations of the isthmus and the Caribbean. He noted that the guarantee of the supply of hydrocarbons is an important element for the present and the future, in view of the growing difficulty in obtaining crude due to its scarcity and high prices.

Referring to the second agreement concerning financial cooperation granted by the Venezuelan Investments Fund, Calderon Berti said such credits will solve the problem of the balance of payments and promote energy development projects.

The aid consists of an annual cooperation of 48-million lempiras toward the present oil prices.

The first deposit of 18-million lempiras from the investments fund, is schuduled to be received next week, according to the Venezuelan minister.

Calderon Berti said Honduras has been receiving aid from his country for several years through facilities for the purchase of oil with a fund of 178-million lempiras. He explained that Venezuela is prepared to hear our requests for long-term credits to be used for energy development and other projects of importance to the country.

The Venezuelan official said Venezuela has offered training for all Honduran experts interested in learning more about oil exploitation activities.

## NICARAGUA

### ORTEGA CONSTRASTS CUBAN, FRG AID WITH U.S. CUTS

PA181715 Paris AFP in Spanish 0406 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Managua, 17 Mar (AFP)--Nicaragua today announced its plans to "take the great leap" forward in the cattle and sugar production development, with Cuba's assistance.

The coordinator of the governing junta, Commander Daniel Ortega, noted that the support promised by the Cuban Government in these two fields is being offered at a time when the United States, in contrast, is denying the financial aid which Nicaragua needs to guarantee its people's broad supply.

Meanwhile, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto announced that the FRG has guaranteed a $15-million loan to Nicaragua and is considering granting another one for up to $100 million, to help the country out of its economic problems.

The United States recently withheld $15 million, the last part of a $75-million credit it had agreed to give Nicaragua, and later cut off credits for the purchase of wheat, according to the Nicaraguan authorities.

### CRUZ ON UNITY, DESIRE FOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH U.S.

PA152108 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 7 Mar 81 pp 1, 5

[Text] At a lively news conference yesterday at government house, Dr Arturo Cruz, former member of the government junta, commented on the "huge task that lies ahead of us" and said national unity means closing ranks around defense and production.

Dr Cruz expressed at length his "faith and optimism" in national unity during his "last interview as a simple citizen," but he criticized what he described as the "rhetoric" of the businesses groups and the "dissident" political parties.

"Their rhetoric is very polarized," the new Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States said, adding that the mixed economy system is now a reality in Nicaragua, which is why "I will never understand the distrust" shown by businessmen in connection with the Sandinist leaders' intentions."

Nevertheless, Dr Cruz insisted on his "optimistic hope," affirming that the government clearly and sincerely intends to consolidate unity. In this respect, and "contrary to what has been said," the "excellent and positive" reorganization of the government junta will help improve conditions with all of the country's sectors.

According to Cruz, "instead of losing communication, it will be strengthened. I have always been in favor of a reorganization of the government junta so the dissident groups can be treated with a lot of political force."

"We had fragmented the administration," he added, "and contrary to what is being said, far from weakening the possibilities of achieving unity these are being strengthened because now there will be greater fluidity."

When a newsman asked him if his withdrawal from the government junta will weaken the "moderate sector" within the government, Cruz seemed irritated by the use of the term "moderate."

"What happens here," he said, "is that there are a few people who want to foil the revolutionary process. But if one is a revolutionary, one is a revolutionary; if one is a patriot, one is a patriot,"

And as for the government's pluralism being weakened, Cruz denied this too, saying that "I continue to be an official of this government." In addition, "if we check the cabinet, the deputy ministers, technicians, and so forth, we will find a large number of professionals who follow a variety of political persuasion holding key positions and working for the government."

"Pluralism is evident," he added, "not only within the junta, which includes Dr Cordova Rivas, but at other levels of government as well, where there are people from other parties who are revolutionaries."

Commenting on the rumors that Cruz' appointment is a dissembled "exile," the former government junta member said that "if this is an exile, it is an exile that honors me greatly, because it means working for the revolution with my modest capabilities."

Expanding on this subject, Dr Cruz commented that when his appointment as ambassador in Washington was being discussed within the junta, he had personally said that that was a key position and that he "felt that a member of the Sandinist National Liberation Front should always hold it."

According to Dr Cruz, he explained to his former junta companeros that the ambassador to the United States must be given full trust and support. "And they told me that I have that trust and support."

"This makes it clear that pluralism does exist in Nicaragua. I am going to work there as a collaborator of my government and I will be loyal to my government," Cruz indicated, adding that his main task in Washington will be to try to improve relations between the United States and Nicaragua.

According to another rumor, Cruz had resigned prior to his new appointment dur to political differences with the Sandinist Front.

Cruz admitted that he had been thinking that "my role there was coming to its end" and it was precisely for this reason that he helped promote and advocate the reorganization of the government junta. "But it is not true that I resigned," he said, adding that "this is an advance; this is the beauty of organized bodies, that they must be improved, and the executive branch must have a more vertical structure."

As for his relationship with the other government junta members, Dr Cruz praised all of them and described as "correct" the decision to appoint Commander Daniel Ortega coordinator, as he is a "young ruler, who is forceful as well as serene and sober."

"In spite of what many people think," he said, "my job in the junta was a marvelous experience. We used to tell jokes and kid around in a climate of perfect friendship."

As for the political aspect," he went on, "I sometimes adopted my own positions, but never, never did anyone say a single word of reproach to me or make the slightest insinuation."

Further on, Dr Cruz affirmed that he admires the American people because, he said he has witnessed their nobleness. He pointed out that U.S. intervention in Vietnam was always rejected by the American people and in the end this forced the government to withdraw from there.

He also said he admired the progress achieved by the American people, but he made it very clear that "in case of any conflict of course I will always be on the side of my fatherland, with my first love, Nicaragua."

As for relations between the United States and Nicaragua, Dr Cruz promised to do everything within his power as ambassador to try to improve these relations. He then said the Nicaraguan Government wishes to maintain normal relations with the United States as long as our sovereignty and self-determination are respected.

As for the U.S. Government, Dr Cruz based his hopes on the "pragmatism" of the rulers of that country, who "must understand that to attempt a new Giron or Santo Domingo would be tantamount to returning to the Stone Age."

"I will serve my government," he said in conclusion, "and will try to strengthen the relations between Nicaragua and the United States."

FOREIGN MINISTER D'ESCOTO REPORTS ON OVERSEAS TOUR

PA180131 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] The governing junta held a news conference this morning to report on the government's arrangements to secure the economic assistance we need so much. During the conference, Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto reported extensively on the results of his recent trip to Europe and Libya. Afterward, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, junta coordinator, was asked the junta's opinion following the incidents that took place after the Nandaime rally of Robelo sympathizers was foiled. Commander Ortega Saavedra said that some political groups are confronting the revolutionary process as if elections were the issue. He then discussed Robelo's actions, noting that after being allowed to participate in the governing junta, he resigned, after which the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN] and other political groups left the State Council. He said that such acts broke the national unity.

Speaking specifically about Robelo, Commander Ortega Saavedra said: [recorded passage indistinct]

Among the topics discussed during the news conference were the alleged differences within the Sandinist National Liberation Front, [FSLN] which the MDN is spreading over the media that cater to it. As is known, following the thwarted Robelo rally in Nandaime, MDN spokesmen have been saying that after Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge gave his permission as interior minister, the radical elements in the FSLN began boycotting the permit trying to create the impression that there are internal differences in the vanguard.

To a question on the alleged existence of differences of contradictions, Commander Ortega replied: [recorded passage indistinct]

At the news conference, Foreign Minister d'Escoto gave a lengthy report on his trip to Europe and Libya seeking economic assistance for the Sandinist people's revolution.

According to what he said, he was in Germany 17 days ago. He tried to obtain three loans for up to $50 million. He found the Germans quite open. He requested Germany to lend $6 million to Nicaragua to promote various priority economic projects. He then went to Spain, with which we have renegotiated our debt, and Foreign Minister D'Escoto asked that new credit lines be opened. He also met with Felipe Gonzale., the Spanish Socialist Workers Party leader.

D'Escoto also went to Libya and said this morning that there are great prospects for economic assistance from that country and that it will be possible to carry out joint agricultural and livestock projects on the Atlantic coast.

He later went to London, where he met with Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, as well as with the Liberal and Labor Party leaders and with the archbishop of Canterbury, who is a very prominent figure. He also went to Brussels, where he met with prominent EEC leaders, and then to France, where he met with Foreign Minister Francois-Poncet and socialist Party leaders.

The most salient point in Foreign Minister D'Escoto's news conference this morning was the evident failure of the U.S. mission to Europe that tried to secure political support for military intervention in Central America. Foreign Minister D'Escoto said the United States did not secure that support. It did not get what it wanted: that the Western European countries understand or share the U.S. position on political problems in Central America. D'Escoto likened this failure to the defeat of United States during the 17th OAS consultation meeting, when the possibility of a military intervention in Nicaragua by the so-called peace forces was suggested in the midst of an insurrection.

Discusses Salvadoran 'Intervention'

PA181550 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Paris--Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto said today in Paris that the only intervention going on in El Salvador is being carried out by the United States. The very evident presence of U.S. military advisers in El Salvador is proof that there is foreign intervention in this country, and the only truth is that this intervention is being carried out by the United States, the foreign minister said shortly before returning to his country.

D'Escoto arrived in Paris from Brussels yesterday and met here with his French counterpart, Jean Francois-Poncet. The Central American foreign minister described the meeting as highly positive.

When asked about the suspension of the U.S. loan for his country, D'Escoto emphasized that it is not a definite cancellation, but that, at any rate, measures are being taken to increase economic aid from other friendly countries.

PCDN LEADER: OPPOSITION TO REGIME, NOT REVOLUTION

PA161824 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Mar 81 p 4C

[Text] Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, political secretary of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, told LA PRENSA recently that "today the Nicaraguans want Nicaragua to be a civilized country where the bullets will be exchanged for votes."

The political leader indicated that the Nicaraguan people, who became united against the Somozist dictatorship, are now resisting the Sandinist government because it has not fulfilled the work program and because the Sandinists have lost their image and popularity. Calero Portocarrero said that if a free election is held, the Sandinists would lose.

Asked about the chances of his country having a popularly elected regime, Calero Portocarrero emphatically stated that the representatives of the various political factions of Nicaragua will exert as much pressure as possible so that elections will be held because the people are the ones who should choose their rulers.

He said that Nicaraguan political parties hope that the American countries, particularly the members of the Andean Pact and Panama and Costa Rica, will cooperate in the achievement of this objective.

The politician was very careful in noting that in Nicaragua there is strong opposition to the Sandinist regime but not to the revolution. He said the Sandinists have tried to impose a revolution in the old style, based on class hatred and military power.

He said that the Somoza government left a debt of $1.5 billion.

He added that so far there have been no investments in Nicaragua and that the money which has arrived has been used to purchase weapons and military trucks and to maintain an army estimated at 50,000 men.

Calero Portocarrero said that to date, Nicaragua has not paid a single cent of the foreign debt.

Referring to the recent political changes in the national reconstruction junta, Calero Portocarrero said that the Sandinist government headed off a possible crisis that would have caused the resignation of Arturo Cruz. It preferred to sacrifice Moises Hassan who had no popular following.

He said that Arturo Cruz' appointment in Washington could mean an end to the confrontation between Nicaragua and the United States. He said that Nicaragua should establish relations of respect without yielding an inch of its sovereignty and dignity.

Calero Portocarrero is also a leader of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries of Nicaragua and he believes that without the private sector there could be an economic collapse in Nicaragua. He said that this is the only sector that produces profits and which maintains the government. He said that the state enterprises are producing big losses and that the private enterprise in Nicaragua today seems to be a "necessary evil."

When Calero Portocarrero was asked if he was afraid of the Sandinist government's pressures with regard to his statements to LA PRENSA, he recalled Pedro Joaquin Chamorro who said "each person controls his own fear."

MEDIA BUREAU CALLS FOR GREATER CARE IN REPORTING

PA180312 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] In light of the distortion of a report aired late yesterday during Radio Catolica's La Nacion newscast, the news media bureau hereby calls on the newscast directors to be responsible and to report the truth. Companera Vilma Auxiliadora Reyes, bureau coordinator, reported that her office has not ordered the closing of Radio Mundial's Hoy newscast as LA NACION reported. Although we have the right to file charges for injury and slander, we won't do so because the revolution compels us to be flexible, Companera Reyes stated.

However, the Radio Catolica's newscast director has been summoned to the media office this afternoon when he will be set straight on the mistaken report that he broadcast. Finally, Companera Reyes said greater care should be exercised, particularly now that reporters can be manipulated in the effort to create problems for the development of our revolution.

POLITICAL GROUPS ACCUSED OF ABUSING FREEDOM

PA170323 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Station commentary: "Political Pluralism is Not a Letter of Marque"]

[Text] The frivolous and recalicitrant nonsense of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN], which represents a political minority, received a just and well-deserved lesson this weekend from the people's organized groups.

The truth is that you cannot go around fooling the people all the time without someday lighting the fire of their anger. The leaders directly responsible for the antipatriotic and anti-Sandinist provocations were met with a bucket of cold water, which should calm down the delirious pretensions of the antinational and antipopular groups. It is time they begin to think and to analyze the reality of the new Nicaragua and of the revolutionary people. We do not feel it is our duty to advise these selfish minorities who are rushing desperately to the edge of the cliff, which will result in their destruction as members of our society. It is not in line with our policy to contribute to the type of relations in which man exploits man.

However, as Nicaraguans, as patriots and revolutionaries, we must defend the interests of the large majority of Nicaraguans who are part of the fatherland and of the Sandinist people's revolution instead of the social and political interests of a minority group. Despite all this, we will try to encourage those who wish to amend their attitude and stop trying to take advantage of the good will and generosity of the revolution to plot against the Nicaraguan people.

Political pluralism, which is part and essence of the democratic and anti-imperialist nature of the Sandinist revolution, is one of the generous principles used by those desperate and dissenting minority groups. This formula of coexistence of all Nicaraguans of good will on behalf of national reconstruction and as proof of the moral, social and political authority of the revolution, and not a sign of weakness, has been interpreted capriciously by those few petty politicians, who cannot accept the historic reality in the land of Sandino. They cannot accept the loss of their privileges.

Political pluralism is not freedom for the minority that has been ousted from power to plot against the stability and gains of a revolution which cost the Nicaraguan people the blood and lives of more than 50,000 of their best sons. Political pluralism is not a letter of marque for a few traitors to prepare the ground for aggression by the traditional enemies of the freedom and sovereignty of the Nicaraguan people and nation. Political pluralism is not freedom to act against the interests of the majority to serve the selfish interests of a reduced group of persons who were born in Nicaragua but who have their souls somewhere else. Political pluralism is not the capricious distribution of the nation's wealth.

Political pluralism is building a nation. Political pluralism is the freedom to contribute to the material and spiritual welfare of all honest and patriotic Nicaraguans, particularly the vast majority that has always been deprived, oppressed and exploited. Political pluralism is the right of all Nicaraguans to contribute to the economic and political consolidation of Nicaragua, to defend the nation's sovereignty and to strengthen social justice. In summary, it is cooperating in the reconstruction of the country as part of the revolutionary process led and guided by our vanguard, the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN).

The petty political groups who think they can interpret political pluralism as freedom to destroy the people's democratic and anti-imperialist efforts, have made a big mistake. But the Nicaraguan people, workers, peasants, intellectuals, professionals and other progressive sectors have taught them a good lesson and we want them to assimulate that lesson for the benefit of all honest Nicaraguans.